



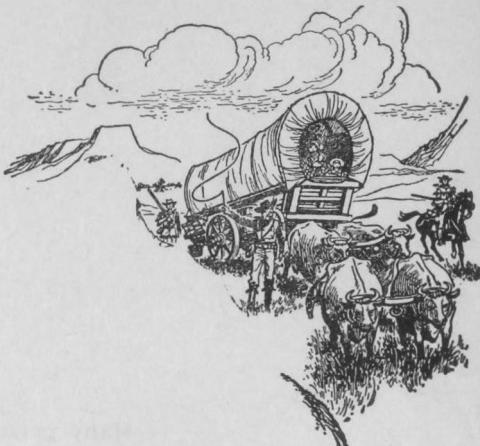
*our first*

50

A HISTORY OF THE TOWN OF RADVILLE,  
SASKATCHEWAN, AND DISTRICT, COMPILED  
FOR THE OCCASION OF RADVILLE'S GOLDEN  
JUBILEE

1910 - 1960





*our first*

50

A HISTORY OF THE TOWN OF RADVILLE,  
SASKATCHEWAN, AND DISTRICT, COMPILED  
FOR THE OCCASION OF RADVILLE'S GOLDEN  
JUBILEE

1910 - 1960

## Acknowledgements

Many persons have assisted in various ways in the preparation of this book. We take great pleasure indeed in naming the Committee whose members collected the material for each chapter and who in some cases prepared the script for such.

Mr. William Barrett, Mrs. William Barrett, Mrs. Dorothy Bouchard, Mr. E. H. Dienst, Mrs. Ed. Dionne, Mr. Lawrence Haden, Mrs. Blair Kimball, Mrs. Sigfrid (Joan) Larsen, Mr. John Porte, Mrs. Curtiss Randles, Mr. Husseen Shibley (Secretary) Mr. James Larsen, Mr. Bill Robertson, Mrs. Alop Anderson, Mr. Armand Bourassa.

We also extend our thanks to the many consultants who attended our meetings, particularly Mr. and Mrs. Paul Garrity.

We especially thank the editor of the South Saskatchewan Star, Mr. Oscar David Stitt, who threw open his records and files to the perusing noses of our investigating committee members and who provided much information from personal memory.

We also gratefully acknowledge the co-operation, kind suggestions and assistance given us by the Publisher and Editor of the Weyburn Review, Mr. Ernest Neufeld, whose presses produced our historical record.

And to all those who worked on the sub-committees in securing the required information, we say, "Thank you."

FLOYD A. COUSINS

Chairman of the Book Committee.

## **D E D I C A T I O N**

We, the Citizens of the Town of Radville and Community respectfully dedicate this book, "Our First Fifty" to our Pioneers and Old-Timers, men and women, whose energy, determination and foresight enabled them to dare the elements of nature, to conquer an unkind geography and to lay the foundations of the fine community we now possess.

May the joys of their achievement be as boundless as the land they helped to conquer.

## **FOREWORD**

This Book, "Our First Fifty", is a short History of the Town of Radville and its surrounding community. No story could possibly include all events or personalities and we respectfully request your indulgence in our selection of such. Many names and happenings of importance may have been omitted, but not intentionally. Our aim was to point out the progress our community has made, not the characters or events of a particular epoch.

There is a chronological sequence in each chapter and we urge you to start at the beginning and read the book through carefully to enjoy it. Should anyone be offended by any remark or lack of remarks, we are sorry indeed and our apologies are herein extended.

# *Our Pioneers and Agricultural Development*

---

## CHAPTER I

We primeval forests felling,

We the rivers stemming, vexing we and piercing deep the mines within,

We the surface broad surveying, we the virgin soil upheaving,

Pioneers! O Pioneers!

—Walt Whitman

Long before the Town of Radville began or even before the survey was made, the area surrounding the present town site was settled by a large group of fine early pioneers with plenty of energy, enthusiasm and foresight. As early as 1904, and even before that year, the wilderness heard the creak of wagon, the low of oxen and the sound of healthy rough voices pushing farther back into the new horizons in a race for a homestead.



THE SPIRIT OF THE PIONEER

Jim Stewart breaking land with oxen on the homestead in 1907. Here Jim and his good wife raised seven children, four sons and three daughters.

In those early days settlers came from all parts of the world, France, Quebec, the Scandinavian countries, Britain, United States, and so on, seeking new homes, anxious to make a new beginning. Some came by team, some walked and many arrived by train to



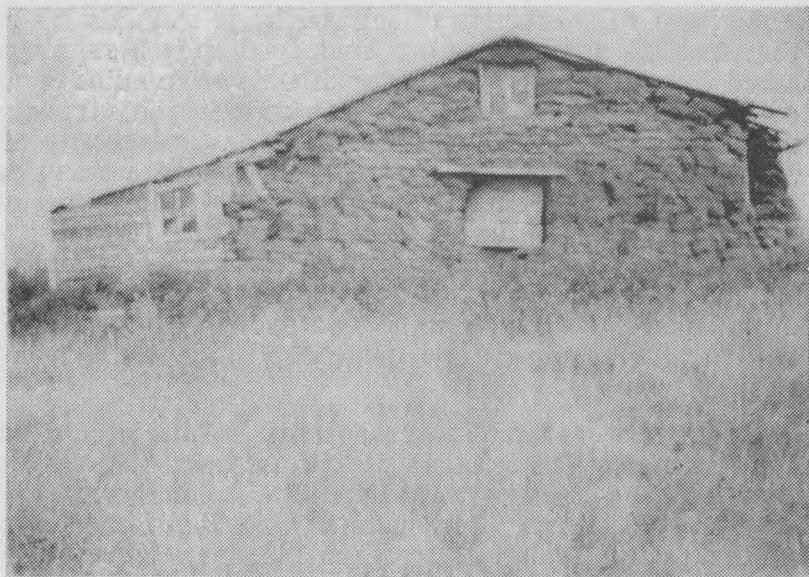
1905—Typical Homestead Shack: Eric Wallin's, just northwest of Radville. Reading from left to right, Eric Wallin, the daddy of them all, Elem Wallin, Alfred Carlson and Arthur Wallin.

Weyburn, the end of the railway for them. They came, full of hope and courage, ready and eager to begin a new life on the prairies. On the station platform at Weyburn could be seen piles of furniture, walking plows, mowers, rakes, wagons, democrats, buggies and other settlers' effects too numerous to mention. Facing the south these stalwarts could view the level land of the prairies, with its rich loam soil, inviting their industrious hands. From Weyburn, many settlers started out on foot, others had purchased oxen, the "wealthy" may have had a team of mules or horses hitched to a wagon or buggy, driving or plodding over open prairie, south-west of Weyburn, clutching their grub, their maps, their information and instructions on how to choose a homestead.

One of these pioneers, John Porte, recalls how a young immigrant could not understand the meaning of the figure printed on the iron peg that was placed on each corner of the quarter section. This young man pulled the peg out of the ground, built a little stone pile and buried a note with these words in his own best writing;

---

Learning is a messy costly business: One old timer recalls the young immigrant who went out hunting, prompted by hunger and a need for adventure. He had walked a half mile or so when he observed a lovely black kitten with a white stripe down its back. The kitten seemed very tame, so by saying, "Pussy, Pussy" the immigrant approached very close. But "Pussy" did not understand this foreign language and gave him one of the best lessons in adaptation for protection that he had ever learned, free of charge and right between the eyes at that.



A real sod shack built by Ray Toovey in 1909.

"Me Homestead". He returned to the land office, placed the iron peg on the table along with ten dollars and, pointing to the peg, he said, "me homestead." But he didn't know that such an action of removing any land marks was strictly forbidden and so he had to pay a fine of three dollars.

Like the young man mentioned above, many a settler found disappointment at the Land Titles Office to find that the homestead which he had selected had already been filed upon by someone else. Nevertheless, undaunted by any reversal, these hardy fellows returned to this Long Creek region, crossed the river where it was shallow, and drove on farther south to locate land not already taken. Others followed the creek upstream and settled in the area which they had named Stowes, but which in 1911 was changed to Brooking. Ceylon also became a centre of population at this time.

In 1908, the Federal Government granted permission to file on an additional quarter section of land called the pre-emption. The cost was \$3.00 an acre with three years to pay for it. By 1910, nearly all homesteads in the vicinity of Radville and as far south as the U.S. boundary had been taken. However many of these early homesteaders found the wilderness with such severe winters and the accompanying hardships too much to endure and these returned to their families, abandoning their homesteads which were then re-opened to the public for further bid.

Having arrived at their homesteads, these stout hearts began

---

Did you know that when coal was scarce, our pioneer wives had to resort to dry pasture platters for fuel to do the cooking? It worked well, they said, except for toast.

their pioneering by the erection of sod shacks or small frame buildings if they had the money. Lumber, fuel, food and all supplies had to be hauled from Weyburn, a distance of thirty-five miles or more. A trip of this kind required two or three days in the summer and three or four days in the winter, depending on the severity of the weather. Certain homes became stopping places where meals and a bed could be obtained. Conviviality and thoughtfulness for others prevailed. Prairie trails became beaten roads in time. In those early days could be seen many a farmer with a team of oxen hitched to a walking plow. Soon the sulky plow appeared on the market in town and such odd power combinations as two oxen, a horse and a cow all hitched to a sulky plow drew but casual observation from the passer-by.

Implements were small in those days—a disc would be six or eight foot, binders had a four foot cut, a reaper had a five foot cutting bar and so on down the line. With such machinery, the pioneers who settled north of Radville in what were known as the "burnouts" had considerable difficulty in preparing a seed bed and there were abandonments in this area. However, south of the present town, the soil was lighter and farmers gradually found neighbours in close proximity. In the Souris Valley region, a community with its church and school soon came into being, and tortuous buffalo trails were soon lost to view in fields of cultivated land.

After three years the settlers had the right to receive titles for their homesteads, providing they had fulfilled all the regulations which included the building of a \$300. home, the breaking of 30 acres of land and staying at least six months on the homestead. He also had to become a British subject. Farmers could leave the land for part of the year in order to earn money to keep him and his family the remainder of the year. Wages in those days were \$1.50 to \$3.00 a day for ten or more hours of work.

Food was always a serious problem. Those early settlers did not have steak on the table every day. Salt pork was the stable commodity but many went hunting for prairie chicken, ducks, rabbits and other delicacies. Long Creek at that time abounded in fish.

Fuel was another problem for the early settler. Before Radville appeared, long distances had to be covered in order to obtain coal. This black gold was discovered in the hills about four miles south of what is now Neptune. Everyone could dig his own supply, but these mines were often dangerous, not braced with timbers properly and lignite coal slakes easily. On one occasion a Mr. Wilson who farmed south-east of Radville village went to the mine alone to dig a load of coal. He was later found buried under coal and dirt, killed in a poorly maintained mine. In 1910, coal was found at a point soon to be called Roanmine, west of what is now the

Do you remember Joe Stegeman's hound dogs? Joe claimed that Minnie Pearl could run a mile in three seconds less than Dan Patch, and she also had a voice for singing, the echoes being heard for miles.

Power problems faced every farmer. Animal power was scarce and expensive—oxen \$100 each, horses \$150 to \$200 and a mule \$300 to \$400. There were some steam engines and coal oil tractors which were used for breaking or threshing only. When a threshing outfit moved on to your farm, the lady of the house could expect from twelve to sixteen hungry men to feed—and what if it rained?

During the past fifty years, farmers have raised good and poor crops. From 1910 to 1915 they were average but in 1916 the crop was severely damaged by red rust so that what seemed like a good stand was hardly worth harvesting. In 1916, Marquis wheat came out and Red Fife was no longer sown. From 1917 to 1920 the crops were poor, grasshoppers and drought doing considerable damage. From 1921 to 1924 average yields were obtained. In 1924 the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool was organized and farmers began to receive the benefits of orderly marketing of grain. In 1925, black rust appeared and wheat graded No. 5 but from 1926 to 1930 there were fairly good crops again.

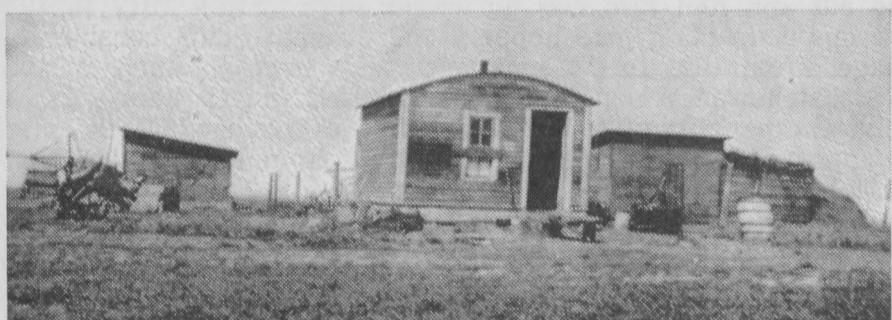
The years remembered by every farmer are from 1931 to 1938. They will always be referred to as the "hungry thirties". For seven years the crops were so light that no revenue was realized. In 1931 there were such dust storms that farmers could hardly raise enough feed for their stock. This continued through 1932 to



What kind of power would you call this? That is Seam Dalton with the whip and reins, with Henry Clark beside him. Henry was our police at the time. Note the condition of the streets.

1935. In 1935 and 1936 grasshoppers and rust claimed what little growth there was. But 1937 was the worst year the farmers ever experienced. Drought and dust storms killed all grain; there was not a spear of grain for the stock, and the late summer saw green fields of Russian Thistle which began to grow after late summer rain. This was cut for feed but proved very poor in nutrition.

Coupled with these seven years of crop failure, was a drop in farm prices for other products. Wheat went from \$1.40 a bushel in 1929 to 18 cents a bushel in the thirties. A thousand pound steer was sold for \$10.00 and pigs sold for \$3.00, butter 8 cents a pound and eggs six cents a dozen. Many farmers went into debt and had



First Buildings of John Porte in the St. Colette Region.

to leave their farms, load their few belongings into a delapidated truck or wagon and move with their families north or into other provinces in order to make a living.

For those who remained, farmers and ranchers tried to save their stock from starving to death by moving them to greener pastures in the north or in Manitoba. The Federal and Provincial governments came to their rescue by paying all transportation charges, buying forage and having it shipped in, to keep the stock through the winter. Food, clothing, fuel and a relief cheque were also parts of government assistance in order to maintain a family and keep the children in school. It is estimated that 1937 set the farmers back at least fifteen years.

In 1938 a rust resistant wheat, Thatcher, appeared on the farms, and here we pay a tribute to those patient agriculturalists at our University and experimental stations who developed it. Our crops were fairly good from 1940 to 1959. In 1955 a new rust-resistant wheat called Selkirk appeared, making Thatcher less popular.

After our early settlers had produced their grain, the marketing of it presented still another difficult problem. Before Radville appeared, the farmers had to haul their grain to Weyburn, the

---

Speaking of dust storms, Amos Phillips, a resident of our town for many years, was heard to remark, "Well, I like this country all right, but I don't like it well enough to carry it around in my ears."

nearest station. However after the railroad was laid and the town site decided upon, Walt and Chet Garner of Weyburn began buying grain, using a scale and a granary north of the tracks. The CNR also built a loading platform on a track siding. Farmers then, after their loads were weighed, had to use a scoop or shovel to do their own unloading into the granary or into a car spotted at the siding. However about 1911, Garner Brothers built an elevator with a storage space of about 30,000 bushels on the site presently occupied by the United Grain Growers' Elevator. Also in 1911 another elevator was built on the site now occupied by the Pool elevator. These two elevators were the sole buying agencies for grain and Tom Cousins and Jim Dawson were the buyers for many years. In the fall of the year long lines of wagons laden with grain waited in front of these elevators, pointing out the need for orderly marketing. As the volume of sales increased, so the price decreased and fortunate was the farmer who could hold his grain until the markets were more favorable. As the years went by this grain congestion in the fall gradually disappeared. In 1926 the Wheat Pool purchased the Co-op. elevator and Ted Hargreaves became its agent, holding the position until 1946. In 1928 the National Grain Co. also built an elevator and Quintus Sundstrom was the first agent. The present McCabe elevator was also constructed in 1928 with Ralph Hurlbert as the first agent. Then in 1955 a new 73,000 bushel elevator was erected by the Wheat Pool. These four elevators provide adequate facilities for the marketing of grain so that the long lines of vehicles waiting to be unloaded are no longer seen.

The passing of the years has brought many changes in the farming scene. With prices stabilized, and orderly the farmer has been able to regain much that was lost. To-day he owns a complete line of power machinery, high powered tractors with large implements, and discusses with his neighbours the most economical unit of production. To-day most farmers have power in their yards, electric lights in every building, their homes are completely modern, their children conveyed to town schools and they discuss world affairs with the ease and knowledge of a politician. To-day the half section farm has almost disappeared and in its stead are farms of 9, 10 or more quarters, operated completely by the farmer and perhaps his son. He uses a permit book in which he records each load of grain sold and the daily press informs him as to what quota grain he may sell. If he has 500 acres under cultivation, he may sell five hundred bushels of wheat for each bushel quota opened by the Wheat Board, the government selling agency. Such is the march of progress. Many of our old pioneers have left the farm home and now reside in town, and many have passed quietly away. We shed a tear for those who have gone before and we express our admiration and thanks to them and to those who remain, for the

---

Did you know that in 1918, the year of the 'flu, Ed. Dionne's big Yellow Fellow threshing machine and its steam engine worked from early fall until December to thresh the grain in this area?

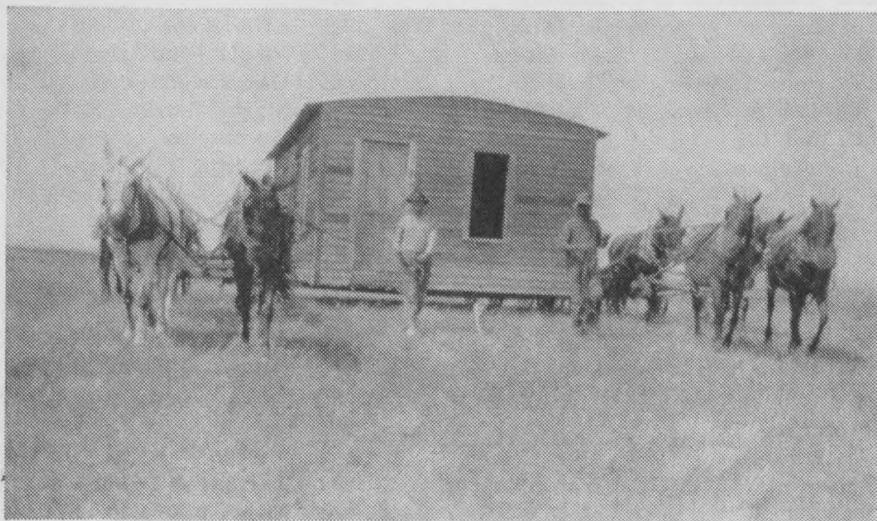
sound foundations they have left for future generations to build upon.

Your committee finds it impossible to print the history of the individual families in the community but rather submits the following tabulation in its stead.

Name of Homesteader	From	Year	Wife's Name	No. of Children
Frank Adams	Ontario	1910	Harriet Warren	
Harry Anderson	Scotland	1908	Margaret Kadenhead	5
Gilbert Audette	Quebec	1908	Evelina Bourassa	6
David Ayotte	N. Dak.	1910		10
Ivan Armstrong	Wisconsin	1910	Eva Stanchfield	2
Ferdinand Barrett	Michigan	1905	Sarah Fagan	14
Ferdinand Bouchard	N. Dak.	1905	Sarah McKay	9
Victor Bourassa	N. Dak.	1910		16
Hector Beaudry	Quebec	1911	Cecile Dionne	5
Romuald Bourassa	N. Dak.	1911	Mederise Bourassa	8
Jack S. Bulloch	Ontario	1905		5
John Becker	Russia	1911	Sophie Binder	10
Hermenegile Bessette	Manitoba	1904	Regina Renaud	6
L. J. Bourassa	Quebec	1906	Philomene Martin	10
Charles Bourassa	Manitoba	1908	Marie Fradette	17
Joannes Cherpin	France	1906	Julia Henrot	10
Hjalmar Carlson	S. Dak.	1903	Valborg Selma Swanson	5
Alex Cottrell	France	1905	Claudine Porte	
Ed. Carlson	S. Dak	1906	He and brother Casey were bachelors	
Leon Carles, Sr.	Algeria	1912		6
Arvid Carlson	S. Dak.	1910	Bricken Carlson	10
George Caldwell	Ontario	1905	Wilhelmina Kirkpatrick	6
Christ Christensen	S. Dak.	1906	Dorothy Peterson	6
Ed. Crone	Iowa	1914	Mary Jane Clark	8
Joseph Cherpin	France	1908		5
Marius Cherpin	France	1908	Marie Louise Verot	5
Cyrille De Vreese	Belgium	1909	Juliana De Vreese	5
Antoine Delaye	France	1906		6
Jerome Deschambault	Quebec	1906	Linda Morrissette	11
Eduoard Dionne	Manitoba	1906	Sonya Bourassa	3
Donat Dionne	Manitoba	1906	Anna Sarazin	10
Leon Dionne	Manitoba	1906	Aime Dandoneault	3
Frank Dietrich	Manitoba	1904		11
Victor Daenckaert	Belgium	1906	Octavie Bukstoley	4
Antonin Delaye	France	1909	Jeanne Estere	5
John Ekblom	Sweden	1910		6
Axel Erickson	S. Dak.	1906	Margaret Anderson	7
Ferdinand Fradette	Quebec	1910		12
John Anderson	S. Dak.	1904		1
Napoleon Fradette	Quebec	1910	E. Galarneau	10
Albert Fradette	Quebec	1911	Antonia Laliberte	10
Joseph Fradette	Quebec	1909	Antoinette Bourassa	
Alex Galarneau	Quebec	1914		3
Paul Garrity	Minnesota	1903	May Cassidy	1
Albert Galarneau	Quebec	1908	Mrs. Albert Gagnon	4

Name of Homesteader	From	Year	Wife's Name	No. of Children
Wallace Hall	N. Dak.	1906	Anna O'Connell	4
Mrs. Alberta Hall	Ontario	1910	Came west with 3 sons and one daughter	
Carl Josephson	Sweden	1906		4
John Ingstrom	Sweden	1910		2
Jake Krausher	Germany	1910		8
Blair Kimball	New Brunswick	1905	Mary Murcheron	5
Adelard Laliberte	Quebec	1908		9
Roy Levee	S. Dak.	1912	Effie Kent	5
Henri Lacaille	Manitoba	1920	Adelie Fradette	4
Aaron Lund	Sweden	1905	Unmarried	
Carl Larsen, Sr.	Denmark	1913	Sigrid Jensen	4
David Lund	Sweden	1905	Unmarried	
Paul Labossiere	Manitoba	1908	Blanche Dionne	10
Axel Lund	Sweden	1905	Unmarried	
Charles Lindskog	Sweden	1906	Margaret Little	3
L. Little	Ireland	1906	Edith Caldwell	3
Henry Livingstone	U.S.A.	1904		4
Theodore Labossiere	Manitoba	1905	Sophie Labossiere	10
Odina Loiselle	Manitoba	1908	Marguerite Dionne	3
Alfred Larsen	Denmark	1912	Bertha Bundas	4
Leopold Marion	Manitoba	1905	Alma Bourassa	10
Omer Marion	Manitoba	1905		11
J. B. Martin, Sr.	Manitoba	1901	Marian Peltier	11
J. B. Martin, Jr.	Manitoba	1903	Thelenese Labossiere	10
Joe Leflar	N. Dak.	1909	Ellie Caudle	4
Albert Leflar	N. Dak.	1909	Ettie Caudle	5
Cloyd Marin	S. Dak.	1908	Agnes Hatch	5
Jim McDermid	Ontario	1907	Elizabeth Johnson	6
Gunnard Nelson	Sweden	1912	Fern Morrow	8
Joe Morrissette	Manitoba	1906		12
Dominique Morrissette	Manitoba	1906	Rosana Bruneau	4
Telesphore Morrissette	Manitoba	1906	Louisa Marion	12
Donat Paulhus	Quebec	1906	Celeste Charbonneau	11
John Porte	France	1908	Philomene Colbreil	2
P. C. Peterson	S. Dak.	1909	Nicolene Nelson	3
Jens Christian Peterson	Denmark	1906	Ingemaria Petersen	10
John Ror	Sweden	1904	Mabel Johnson	6
Henri Riviere	France	1908	Angele Mallet	5
Joseph Renaud	Manitoba	1903		6
Alphonse Prost	France	1906	Florina Marion	11
Albert Smith	Wisconsin	1911	Julia Emerson	4
Jim Stewart	Ontario	1904	Edith Seymour	7
William Trenouth	Ontario	1910	Mrs. Alberta Hall	1
William Steiger	Germany	1906	Stena Plowman	4
Albert Stensrud	Norway	1911	Martha Christjohnson	2
Albert Steiger	N. Dak.	1906	Eva Woodley	
Louis Verot	France	1903	Sophie Archer	5
Eugene Verot	France	1904		6
Victor Van De Sype	Belgium	1907	Felicie Schepens	4

Name of Homesteader	From	Year	Wife's Name	No. of Children
Ronald Van Alstine	N. Dak.	1905	Lydia Clark	1
Alphonse Verot	France	1904		6
Ray Toovey	Iowa	1906	Louise Stark	2
Tom Warren	Ontario	1910		
Eric Wallin	S. Dak.	1904	Lena Danielson	12
Elem Wallin	S. Dak.	1906	Agnes Barrett	5
Robert Williams	Ontario	1906	Martha	
David Yingst	Minnesota	1910	Minnie Peterson	4



Ray Toovey and his brother move a house. Note the mules on the one side and the horses on the other. What do you call that bluish gray grass in the foreground?

The following were homesteaders and must be listed as pioneers, and we are indeed sorry that many names may have been omitted: Hector Audette, Olaf Anderson, A. Appelquist, Percy Armstrong, Arthur Brochu, J. Benetry, Regina Bert, Jeremie Bert, Dave Bellavance, Eugene Bellavance, Alf. Brown, Denis Breton, Cliff Bloor, Bud Bergerson, Ed. Anderson, John Buchlin, Nils Bergman, John Anderson, Peter Anderson, Peter Bjork, Alfred Charbonneau, John Carlson, L. H. Christensen, Bob Cole, L. Church, H. Cook, P. B. Calladine, Alec Corbin, Jess Carter, Art Carter, Bill Dedora, John Deshors, A. Devos, Paul Deitrich, Bill Deitrich, Henry Deitrich, L. Daer, Pat Duddy, Hank Dahlin, William Coffron, Remie Daenckaert, Paul Daenckaert, E. G. Edwards, Emil Forsen, Edmond Fradette, M. Forshee, E. Forshee, A. Frymire, Ed Fleming, O. Dufresne, Louis Grosenick, Theodore Grosenick, Herman Gust, Charlie Gustafson, Charlie Gray, Ott Gray, John Gray.

---

Old years and new years, with all their pain and strife,  
Are but the bricks and steel and stone with which we fashion life.

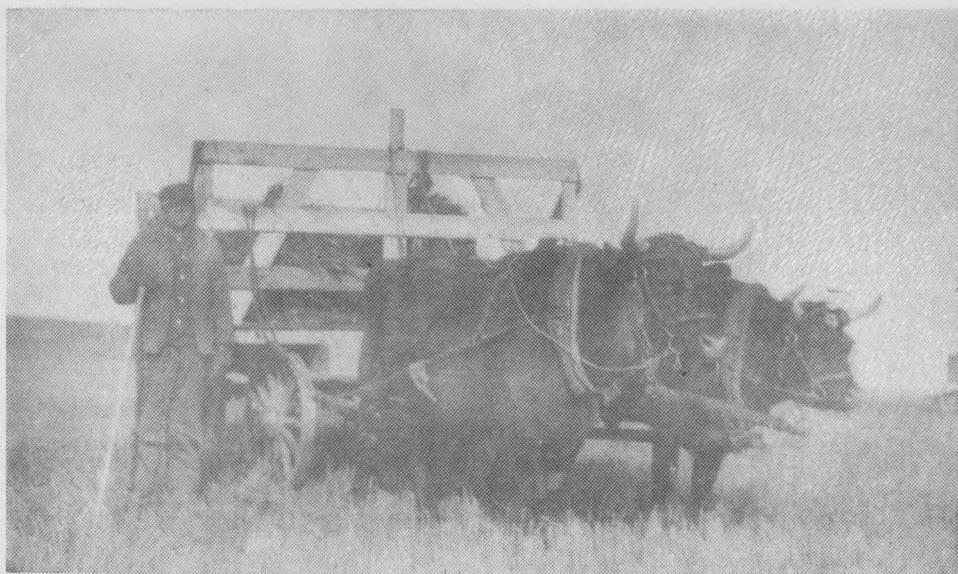
—Edgar Guest

Frank Hurlburt, Allen Hurlburt, Charlie Hatt, H. Fletcher, John Hart, Bert Hatt, John Heglin, Ed. Henheffer, Gus Johnson, August Johnson, Ramus Korsbrek, Alfred A. K. Johns, Hans Johnson, Olie Lien, Jean Faurie, Alfred Labbee, Ed Ludke, H. Looyesen, Alfred Martin, Bob McNaughton, Bill McNaughton, William McHattie, A. McHattie, Tom Miller, Ed Martin, Albert Mazenc, Louis Mazenc, Jack McPhee, Bill McPhee, Andy McPhee, Nels Hostetler, Everett Marin, Wayne Marin, Charles Middleton, Obert Marion, Prosper Nimegeers, John Nelson, Hans Nelson, Ernie Noble, Frank O'Connell, Wilfred O'Connor, Carl Ogrin, Erick Olson, Vic Peterson, Jake Probe, Johnnie Probe, Neil Randles.

Joe Reidy, Pat Reidy, Emmet Reidy, Ernest Rabin, L. Rasmussen, N. Rasmussen, L. A. Slater, Allan Scott, Joe Steigelman, Alfred Sundstrom, Bernard Swanson, A. D. Stevenson, Henry Stevenson, Percy Shaw, O. Tucker, Prosper Vermeulin, Achille Verbeurgt, Raymond Van de Sype, Albert Viguie, Sr. Frank Westling, Joe Shibley, Gust Fossenier, Jake Jacobson, Les Haden, Leon Van de Sype, Oscar De Roose, Jens Halvorson, Sam Shibley, Scotty Dickson, Emile De Roose, Jack Daniels, Louis Carlson, Johnny Peterson, Dave Nickles, Lee Swedburg, Osborne House, Mike Guest, and numerous others.

We believe the following story to be typical of so many pioneers.

In the spring of 1904, Ferdinand Bouchard and Alfred Cassavant left Dunseith, N. Dak., in search of land on which they could build their homes and bring their families. Before returning home



The ox was a strong noble animal even if he was a trifle slow. Here Albert Galarneau shows two fine specimens and a strong pioneer spirit himself.

they filed claims for homesteads in what is now Laurier Municipality. Bouchard's land was N.W. 4, 6, 17 W. 2nd and is the present home of Reeve Wilfrid Bouchard.

In the spring of 1905, the men returned, making the trip by wagon, bringing with them their belongings which included a walking plow, pick and shovel, a few cattle and horses. In the latter part of July, 1905, Mrs. Bouchard and six children, namely Ferdinand Jr., Andrew, Amelia, William, George and Sadie. Three other children, Victor, Irene, and Wilfrid, were born here. Mr. Bouchard was very interested in all community affairs, but being unable to read or write was very handicapped. We remember his flowing black beard, his keen eyes and his desire to engage anyone in conversation. He died in 1938 at the age of 77 years. His widow Sarah still resides in Radville.



A Pioneer's Family. Mr. and Mrs. Victor Bourassa had sixteen children. Here you see fifteen of them. Mr. Bourassa was active in municipal affairs, being a councillor for twelve years. Died in 1955.

May we close with a farm word picture as those above have seen it:

"Through the ample open door of the peaceful country barn,  
A sunlit pasture field with cattle and horses feeding,  
And haze and vista, and the far horizon fading away."

—Whitman

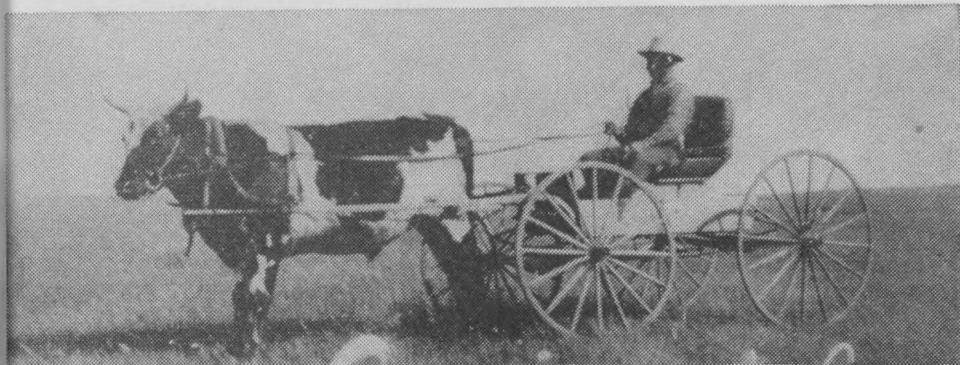
---

Do you remember Paul Labossiere's racing horses? Paul knew good horse-flesh when he saw it.

Here's a contribution by one of the pioneers, Johnnie Probe, now resident in Regina.

### "RADVILLE PIONEERS WERE HARDY"

Fifty years ago life on Radville's farms tested the spirit and resourcefulness of the prairie's boldest pioneers. It was the era of the homesteader with his hopes of future independence and security



Christ Jensen goes to town and back with nary a flat tire.

supporting the daily drudgery and privation of farm life. Every homesteader's family was faced with isolation from neighbours and town. Every day held a repetition of rugged working conditions using primitive tools and machines, and a complete absence of family amenities such as are commonplace in the homes of the Radville district today.

The very climate itself presented survival hazards to the people of that period of time. Blizzards in winter too often claimed the lives of "greenhorn" settlers suddenly caught in a snowstorm on the lonely prairie away from any habitation and lacking the guidance of today's well-marked roads and telephone lines, or even cattle fences, and too frightened to trust the good sense of their horses to locate temporary shelter until the winter storms diminished in violence. In the Spring and Fall, wind-swept prairie fires regularly threatened the grass and hay land on which the pioneer depended to feed his growing cattle. Any smoke cloud on the skyline was an automatic signal for every available man and boy to lay aside the work at hand or to forego the precious sleep and ride quickly to the support of the farm fire fighters desperately attempt-

---

A long time before the advent of the threshing combine, Donat Dionne had invented his own self-propelled threshing machine. And it worked too. But Donat was not the only inventor in the Dionne family. Joe Dionne made good use of a Ford engine to carry himself over the snow where no car or horse could travel.



Here you see one of the beauty spots of Southern Saskatchewan, the front yard of a farm home. Carl Larsen, a Dane and proud of it, shows what industry and love of beauty can do. He has made the desert blossom like the rose.

ing to salvage a few acres of grass for cattle feed, while mothers and small babies meantime huddled together on the narrow home fire guards watching the progress of the distant battle against the carelessly lighted prairie fires.

The most serious family problem of the early days was sudden sickness and accident. The nearest hospital was at Weyburn almost a full day's travel over the best trails. Doctors and trained nurses were far too few. In the absence of telephones and passable roads, Radville doctors suffered great personal hardships to travel weary miles by team and cutter or buggy in piercing blizzards or on rutted roads, on horseback or in later years in the luxury of the Model T car, to treat the most urgent survival demands such as crushed limbs or sudden mysterious illness. Even neighbour women, useful as midwives at confinements, were not always available in time to bring the new farm babies into the world. Many an awkward husband of that era can still describe his doubtful skill

Speaking of Joe Dionne's inventive genius, one old timer recalls the peculiar occasion when Joe had entered a car race at Weyburn fair one year. The cars were drawn up radiator to radiator, with blue smoke belching in a challenging manner from each machine. The signal was suddenly given. All cars except Joe's took off as though they were propelled by jets. But to Joe's rescue came brothers Ernie and Ed., and Joe darn near won the race.

as doctor, nurse and housemaid to deliver his latest son or daughter. There were instances too when the new mother had all alone or with her other howling babies present faced the great experience of childbirth.

Occasionally as in the fall of 1918 fatal epidemics swept the entire country. In that terrible year, thousands died all over the world from a mysterious "Spanish flu." In the Radville district whole families were stricken at once, and many persons died through inability to receive medical aid. The farm home was fortunate where a father or mother was left standing to minister as best he could to the sick, to milk the cows and do a minimum of chores, while anxiously scanning the horizon in the feeble hope that the one doctor of the Radville district, or a sympathetic man of God, or even a neighbour in search of his livestock might come by to lend a hand or give a word of comfort or advice. Doctors performed superhuman feats of endurance, catching only rare winks of sleep enroute to remote sick beds to give medical assistance and to prescribe for those in greatest danger at least, and then to rush on to the next farm in a seemingly impossible battle against the deadly "flu."

The steady monotonous routine of uncertain weather, poor crops, sickness and hard work for adults and children alike, from daylight to dark, was broken only by rare time-consuming trips to Radville for blacksmith repairs, for the weekly newspaper and mail from far-away kin-folk, for a bit of sugar and tea to supplement the



Lunch Time on the Threshing Outfit. See how straight Doc McKay sits up in that back seat.

simple farm larder, and for the precious nickle bag of hard-rock candies for the excited children.

Equally rare and thrilling were the inter-family visits. On such occasions mother, dad, and a brood of noisy kids crowded into a hayfilled sleigh or a creaky democrat and drove off to a distant neighbour's sod shack to share the Sunday feast of homecooked food and treasured gems of gossip about pigs, babies and recipes. There were the infrequent red-letter occasions when all the neighbourhood gathered at the country school for a Christmas concert or dance. How the school's ricketty frame shook from the all-night rhythm of the schottische and square dance as old and young enjoyed the music of the accordion or the fiddle, and as the intoxicating air of rural romance overwhelmed the few eager bachelors and red-cheeked country lassies!

Such was the pattern of life on most Radville farms fifty years ago. The uncertain and difficult prospect of mere survival as our farm families knew it half a centry ago has yielded to a less rugged and more scientific vocation of agriculture in 1960.

Today modern churches, schools, hospitals and community shopping centres make their constant impact on us all in a way that I feel sure the pioneers of my day could not have forecast as following so soon their own stubborn and persistent toil.

Today, telephone lines and passable roads make communications and transportation more common. As social amenities increase and as the standard of living of our rural people steadily improves as radios and television keep our farm families in constant touch with the outside, the dwindling survivors of Radville's early hardships must feel glad to have been a part of the pioneer's successful struggle with a capricious nature, and glad that their children and grand-children can compete on easier terms in the business of happy and useful living.

---

Alec Anderson, himself a keen historian of this region, informs us that the original trail of the R.C.M.P. in 1873 was right through where Radville and Brooking are now located.

# *Transportation and Communication*

---

## CHAPTER II

To my neighbour I shall travel,  
Winding road — a weary mile,  
With a hand he'll give me greeting,  
Ills shall vanish with his smile.

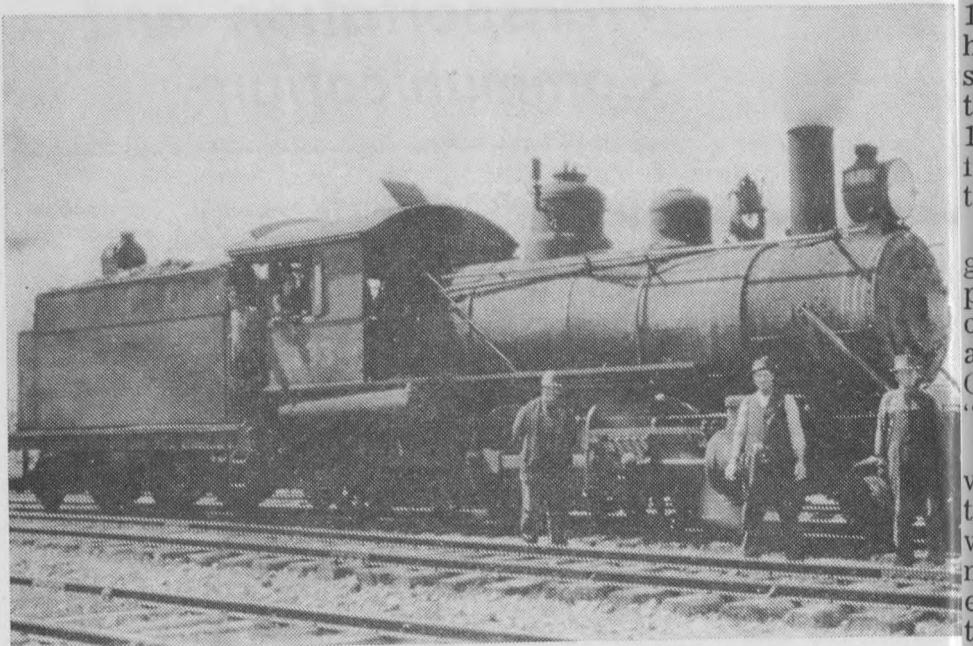
Mankind has always felt the need of communicating with his neighbour. Possessing a mind and tongue, man has exchanged ideas, held disputations, solicited assistance, expressed his needs, his joys and love, and his thoughts on religion. Many are the "sense extensors" he has invented to make his wishes known at great distance: the telegraph, cable, telephone, radio and TV are a few.

When our early pioneers appeared on the horizon, guiding oxen, horses or mules into the wilderness where no one had been before, they were forced to wind in and out around the hills, through valleys, searching for shallow places to cross rivers and streams. The settler following behind, seeing a wagon track, would conclude that the one who preceded him had selected the best way and so two wagon tracks were made. Soon prairie trails appeared with ruts just the width of a wagon. These divided again and again as the settler's land was reached.

Upon the formation of the system of rural municipalities — Laurier No. 38 was formed in 1909—there began a development of road allowances as set forth in the survey of the 1880's before the province was formed. These allowances provided for a road running north and south every mile and east and west every two miles. After the formation of the province in 1905, the Provincial Government began to assume responsibility for certain roads, and car licenses helped to defray their costs. The Territories had issued car licenses before the province was set up. In 1907 the Provincial Government of the day budgeted for \$400,000 for road construction. The municipal governments began grading and improving its market roads. At first there was merely the grading of the road with no graveling done. These roads became virtually impassable during

---

"The Old Ninety Seven" or "How Fast Will She Go?" Dalrymple, engineer, brought a freight train from Carlyle in the record time of a little over two hours and made all the stops. His trainmen on the back of the caboose nervously held on to the "air" and in chorus, uttered a prayer on the Goodwater hill. His fireman, a young fellow named Armand Labossiere, kept up a steady chatter of the only pig latin he knew, being "Oke o you gug o tut o hush ee lull lull." But they brought her in safely. Armand dropped the shovel for the rest of his life following that ride.



First switch engine in Radville, No. 133.

a rain, and many a farmer had to bring out his horses or tractor to pull some unhappy motorist from a quagmire of mud and water. Such conditions echoed in legislative halls until improvements became politically expedient. Gravelled roads and all-weather highways began to appear. A crystal-ball observation indicates superb highways connecting Radville to other large population centres sometime in the future.

Before prairie trails and roads became highways, our railways provided the chief means of transportation. In 1909 and 1910 the dream of the people of this area became a reality when the first train whistled into Radville, with Dalrymple at the throttle. In 1911 the line was extended west as a branch to Bengough and completed further in 1926 to Willowbunch. Steel was continued in 1911 to Baildon and then completed to Moose Jaw in 1913.

At first a box car was used as a station and the first agent here was a man named Pennolly. In the year 1912, our present station was constructed and C.N.R. building continued with a tall roundhouse and machine shops with a great many men employed. Two of these early employees are still with us in the persons of the brothers-in-law Theodore and Paul Labossiere.

Railway activity in Radville continued to expand so that

#### DO YOU REMEMBER . . .

When the boys used to catch the passenger at midnight and the engine would slow down to let them out at the swimming hole at the bridge? These boys included Vern Dumouchel, Emile Dumouchel, Armand Labossiere, Emerson Broom, etc.

1915-16 about forty-five men were working in the shops in eight-hour shifts around the clock. The shop whistle was a very familiar sound calling the oncoming shift to work. Sometime during 1914, the C.N.R. store, coal dock, bunk house, etc., were completed. In 1921 a home, steam heated from the roundhouse, was erected on first avenue for the locomotive foreman. E. B. Patterson was among the first to occupy this home.

In 1919, on May 30 the men walked off their jobs in a general C.N.R. strike for higher salaries. The strike almost completely tied up all railway traffic for a time. This was the first occasion in several years that the fires in the roundhouse were allowed to burn out. Some trains were kept running manned by C.N.R. officials. The men achieved their purpose and many received "back cheques" for their trouble.

In 1922, the Grand Trunk Pacific constructed the line southwest from Talmage to Weyburn. Then in 1923 came the amalgamation of the Canadian Northern and Grand Trunk Pacific Companies which in 1927 extended the line to Union Jack and also built two miles of road northeast from Radville Junction. By 1928 these extensions were linked, thus completing the line from Radville, through Weyburn and Talmage to Regina.

This led to still greater railway activity and at one time there were eighteen crews and twenty-four engines working out of Radville and we had a nice little switch engine, No. 133, preparing the freight trains. Joe Saunders was our yard master. Daily passenger trains to Regina, Winnipeg, via Carlyle and Maryfield as well as to Moose Jaw seemed here to stay. Sleeper service was provided between here and Winnipeg and in the fall of the year there was a freight train east every hour or so. Bill Laking was dispatcher here for years.

The railroaders had their difficult times too, what with severe winters and spring washouts. In February 1916, snow became so deep that it required a month for the crews to open the line from the east. The snow-plow, pushed by a double header arrived about 5 P.M. A work train, also a double-header (one dead engine) followed closely and a freight train arrived later with much needed coal. Altogether eleven engines reached the shop during that evening.

The last and worst tie-up occurred in February 1947 when all lines were blocked with snow. The last to be cleared was the Weyburn-Talmage line where four engines, two snow-plows and two cabooses were completely covered with snow and one engine and plow were off the track. It was April before they had the line ready for use again.

---

The perils of a Conductor. On one occasion (Jack Whyte conductor and Archie McNiven engineer), a special train was on its way from Gravelbourg to Moose Jaw when a lady passenger took suddenly sick, shortly after passing one of the stations. Before they reached the next station this same lady had given birth to a fine healthy baby girl. We are told she named it Jacqueline for some reason or other.

Radville has always been known as a railroad town. Our C.N.R. men have sponsored local affairs, have seen fit to serve on town councils and school boards, to assume responsibility in sports and, in general, have taken a keen interest in the progress and betterment of our community. In the early days they sponsored teams of baseball, hockey "The Nationals," and football. They held Trainmen's Balls (described elsewhere) which were second to none. Their fire brigade gave willing assistance in the control of numerous fires and they performed many missions of mercy for the public. It is a terrible shame that the railroads which opened the country to civilization in the first place, contributed to the growth and welfare of our towns and cities, should now be forced, through lack of patronage to allow rust to accumulate on the surface of their once proud rails. What can ever take the place of a fast moving train pulled by a majestic steam locomotive travelling through the whirling snow, whistling and echoing into the night? What is romantic about a diesel? Can other present means of transportation duplicate the following feat? A C.N.R. freight train consisting of eighteen cars of livestock were shipped from Bengough, the train leaving that station on Tuesday evening at 7 o'clock. It reached the stockyards in Winnipeg the next morning at 11, which was less than fifteen hours when time changes were considered.

The halls of fame in railroading out of Radville contain many names. Just a few are conductors, Ed North, Jack Whyte, Harry



Station built in 1912 and 1913.

---

**DO YOU REMEMBER . . .**

The after church sing-songs at the home of Bud Thompson, engineer?

Gamble, Tom Speedie, Jack McLaughlin, Archie Dale, Ed Dienst, Dick Hall, Charlie Wilson, Mel Cook, Slim Birkett, Peter McLaren, Curley Adams, Billie Newell, Chuck Adams, Arnold Statta, George Graham, Maurice Graham, Christ Stewart, etc., and engineers Tom Clemes, Sid Ward, Ed. Gerry, Dusty Rhodes, Frosty Winters, Dave Knott, Allan Trann, Doc Beauchamp, Tom Healy, Ed Howden, Archie McNiven, Bill Proust, Pat Evans, Allan Shaw, Joe Gallagher, Bill Dalrymple, Dad Charles, Mike Allen, Bud Thompson, W. Neilson, Walter Stowe, B. B. Shaw, Nicholson, M. Mulvihill, etc. The



*ROUND HOUSE AND TURN TABLE, RADVILLE, 1911.*

Roundhouse under construction in 1911 and 1912.

only crew (diesel) out of Radville at the present time consists of Curt Randles, Conductor, Jack Ferguson and Archie Howden, trainmen, Bear Cassidy, Engineer, and G. Harvey Cutting, Assistant. W. T. Hannon was a brakeman on one of the first trains into Radville.

How about the Vehicular changes in the past fifty years? The first mode of transportation in the town in 1910 was by horse and carriage or buggy. One of the livery stables at that time was owned and operated by Johnny Williamson. Do you remember how Mrs. Williamson could whistle "meal-time" to Johnny although their home was on another street? Passengers were conveyed by horse and buggy to and from the country, or by horse and cutter in winter.

#### DO YOU REMEMBER . . .

How Pink Cassidy claimed he and Doc McKay worked hand in hand in the population racket. Pink said it was no mistake when he blew the whistle at the roundhouse at 7 A.M. instead of at 8 A.M.



Railroading as "she used to be." Left to right, Tom Clemes, Alvin Hodgins, Fireman, Engineer.

In 1911 Charlie Hill who operated the post office took over the agency for Ford Cars and he purchased the first car to make its appearance in Radville. Later, Picketts and Schurman's Hardware dealers took over the Oldsmobile agency and soon opened a garage and workshop, selling and servicing Model T Fords.

The Model T then somewhat displaced the horse drawn buggy as a livery and Hook Campbell with the "Gray Car" became our chief livery man.

In 1918, Albert Smith, Reynold's dad, opened a garage in a building behind Eby's store and took on the Chevrolet agency. Chevries sold for about \$900 at the time. Each year from then on saw great changes in motor cars with resulting improvements in transportation. We have gone from the old fashioned high car with acetylene lights to our modern stream-lined models, and changes are bound to continue as the automobile assumes the role of the only family form of transportation.

The first means of communication with the outside world in Radville was the telegraph. All business of immediate concern used this means. Items of national and international interest were flashed over the wire. Perhaps the most important message was the one which arrived on Thursday, November 8, 1918, at 2 P.M., to the effect that Germany had signed the Allies' peace terms and that all hostilities had ceased. This provided the occasion for a celebration that evening, which started at the station and led up main street to the junction with third avenue. Here we sang war

---

**DO YOU REMEMBER . . .**

The trainmen would stop to shoot ducks or prairie chicken on the line between here and Bengough. (So says Carl Larsen Sr.)

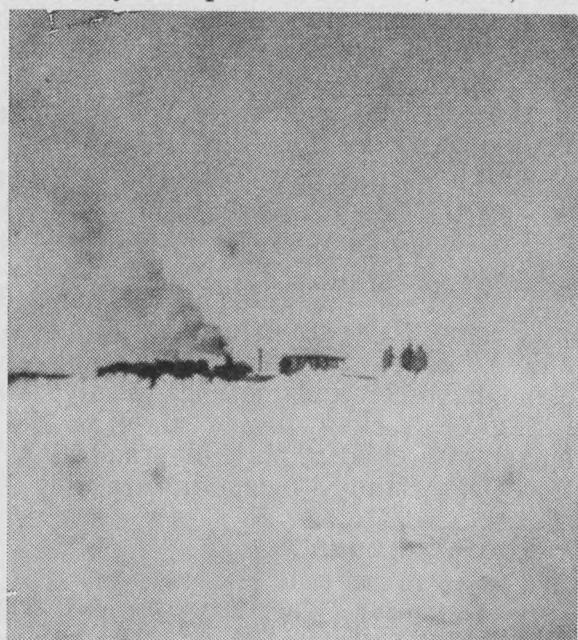
songs and burned on effigy of Kaiser Wilhelm. The time was premature and we repeated the whole business again on the evening of November 11. Leonard Fleury led the singing and Olivia DeVos made a stirring speech paying particular tribute to Belgium for its gallant part in the war. Dad Hober helped too in the festivities. Can you recall such songs as "Over There," "Blighty," "Long, Long Trail," "Till We Meet Again"? All important news events were brought to us by wire, even to the boxing matches.

The telephone was possibly the most important means of communication brought to us at this time. The Radville Telephone office was opened on August 26, 1916 with David Bradley as agent. By 1917 there were 56 subscribers. Mr. Bradley continued as agent until July 1936 at which time the office was placed under the agency of Mrs. Ethel Hunt, who served in that capacity until November 1, 1946. Mr. R. L. Greaves took over the agency at that time and has continued to the present. Since "Dick" Greaves came the telephone business has greatly expanded and the office had to be enlarged to accommodate the more modern equipment. There are now 290 subscribers on the local switch board.

Rural lines have been added throughout the years. On December 1, 1917, the Neptune Rural Telephone was incorporated and connected with Radville Exchange on August 6, 1918. Radville Rural was incorporated on March 31, 1917, and connected to our exchange September 6, 1917. In 1958 the Brooking Rural Telephone was incorporated and connected in 1959.

In 1958 a night operator was added to the staff and we now have continuous service, night and day, every day.

Our first telephone directory was printed in June, 1918, and



Stuck again at Clearfield.  
1947, February



First automobile in Radville. Can you identify Charlie Will at the wheel, Ernie Dionne, and Ed Dienst? That's Ed Dionne with the hat looking at us through the windshield. Whose dog is that?

was sent to all subscribers by the Department of Telephones. It contained 255 pages of printed material. On July 29, 1926 a pay booth was installed in the lobby of the Empire Hotel, and more recently one has been installed in the hospital.

The party-line telephone was perhaps the greatest blessing to rural folk. To quote J. F. C. Wright in his book "Saskatchewan," page 136, he says, "It provided a ready and convenient substitute for the informal and sometimes prolonged chat enjoyed by urban neighbours over the back fence. Moreover, the well founded assumption that others besides the two parties directly concerned were most probably listening in on the line, imposed on the principals a calculated restraint which made an art of seemingly casual and pretendedly private conversation. Here may have been an unpremeditated beginning of the panel discussion technique developed some 20 years later in radio broadcasting. But unlike the radio audience, the unseen audience with ear pressed to a rural telephone receiver sometimes betrayed its identity by the familiar ticking of a clock placed close to the phone, or an exuberant remark of a child at play, or grandfather's snore which had, during a previous Sunday been unmistakably identified in church. The

#### DO YOU REMEMBER . . .

When Archie Dale said, "Did you ever see a crazier stunt than that Lindburgh pulled? Why, that's the sort of thing a driver of a Model T would try."

men folk listened in too but rarely did anyone let on he had acquired valuable information surreptitiously."

"A general ring—indicated by one prolonged ring—officially summoned all subscribers to lift their telephone receivers and listen. It might be an announcement of an auction sale, a local dance, a farmers' meeting, the postponement of a funeral, or a tragedy such as fire on an isolated farm. Day or night, in good weather or bad, a neighbour would respond and neighbours always rally to an urgent call for help."

What a difference to the community was made by the introduction of the radio. At first only a few could afford them. Jimmie Hinks, operator at the Princess Theatre, installed one there. Picketts and Schurman built a tall aerial and installed an Atwater Kent in the store. McGray Wilkinson, bank manager, had a very good one and his secretary would take down the news in shorthand and then pass it on to the editor of the local paper. In 1923 John Deshors built his own set and one for Ed Dienst. They worked splendidly. Jim McDermid was possibly the first farmer to own a radio. It had ear phones like the rest but it also had a loud speaker which he used if reception was good. A new word, "static," appeared on the public tongue at this time. Now our homes have stereophonic sound and we know what happens in the world almost the instant it occurs.

The first TV set in Radville was set up in Clark Brothers' Radio and Electric Shop in 1953. The first set purchased in town as far as we know was that of Odilon Prost. The first reception was from Minot, N.Dak. in 1954. However in 1955 Regina CKCK-TV came "on the air" and at the present time there is a TV set in nearly every home.

What has the future for us? Shall we be able to walk along our streets and communicate at the same time with a friend in Montreal? Will we be obliged to keep ourselves presentable when we answer the 'phone because our image will be seen in a picture tube by the person to whom we are talking? Will we have to learn a new language to communicate with our friends on other planets? Who knows?

# *Business and Economics*

---

## CHAPTER III

How's business? A certain business man in discussing a particular theological problem exclaimed, "If there ain't no hell, then where's business went?" We are very certain that the above utterance was never made by anyone from Radville, because this town has become a very important trading centre in the south central part of the province, and the history of this development makes a most interesting chapter in our book.

In 1910, when the railroad had completed its survey and had decided on the farm of Conrad Paquin as a divisional point, small areas of ground called lots were carefully measured out in rows on both sides of the railway track survey, the first streets being at right angles to a provincial line called Government Road. The first house in this surveyed area was a two storey structure very near the ground upon which a ten-stall roundhouse was to be constructed. Very soon in the same vicinity, north of the track right-of-way, a number of business places appeared, built of wood and without foundation but resting on stones. Each had a central door entrance with a small window or two on each side. Only one or two received the dignity of a coat of paint. These buildings formed a little street running at right angles to Government Road, and served the ever increasing number of settlers that came along. One of these buildings was later moved to the site just back of the present town office and now houses Paul Marion's Electric Shop.

In 1911, the railroad grade, then ties and rails, work trains and large crews slowly made their way to our present town site. The railroad made a very graceful curve after crossing the river instead of coming straight along as it does now. The first train brought large quantities of machinery, lumber for three lumber yards, goods for store shelves, etc., and Radville became a hive of activity with places to stay and eat at a premium. Bill Hannon, Franklin Ferguson's father-in-law, was a worker on one of these trains.

The far-sighted citizens who were here to watch the road

---

### DO YOU REMEMBER . . .

The blacksmith shop operated by Bob Williams on Railway avenue?

The feed and flour office operated by John Lucas on the lot presently occupied by the Saskatchewan Power Commission building?

Alf Johns' tin shop in the basement beneath the Province Theatre?

The bar in the hotel with its gentleman bar tender Jack Lounds?



First house in Radville. Note the teams and lumber wagons. The little shack on the right could be Conrad Pequin's, would be a few rods west of our railway crossing today. The roundhouse would be constructed a little to the left of the picture.

come in, believed that Radville would expand and the hill and open prairie on the west and south side of the tracks seemed to be a better location for a town main street, since it would provide good drainage. In making this decision, they had to forego the good water supply that was to be secured almost any place north of the tracks for the alkali water on the south side. The buildings along Government Road were then moved across the tracks and relocated on lots on the south side. But many of these lots had already been purchased and new buildings mushroomed in neat line facing each other on either side of a grass strip which was called main street.

By March, 1912, before the present station was constructed by the Canadian Northern Railway, John Eby had built a fine two-storey store on the lot presently occupied by Melda's Ladies' Wear. The upper part of the store was divided into offices, suites and a single school room. The next building up the street — no sidewalks—was a store built by Ayotte Brothers, now occupied by Seede's Department Store. Next came Charlie Hill's Hardware, where Clark's Sunset Hardware is today, and still farther up the street were two small business offices, an empty lot and then the hotel which was constructed in 1911 by C. G. T. Reetz. The top or third floor was added in the spring of 1912. Also in 1911, the Weyburn Security Bank was built, the same building that is now

#### DO YOU REMEMBER . . .

Dan Irving's Gents' Furnishings?

Fat Williamson's pointed shoes?

Ed Dienst's fine barber shop and pool room as well as an excellent bowling alley?

The Edison roll phonograph in Koch's drugstore?

occupied by the Town Office. McGray Wilkenson, newly married, became the first manager, and we are told that Dorothy Wilkenson was the second baby to be born in Radville. Elda Reetz, Herb's daughter, being the first. The Canadian Bank of Commerce, believing that Brooking would become the divisional point, constructed a bank in that village which at the time boasted a three storey hotel



Squatters at Radville, Sask.

First buildings in Radville before the Railway came all north of the track survey. The building second from the left was later moved to the side behind the town office and became Comstock's printing shop.

and numerous business places. However in 1912, the Canadian Bank of Commerce was moved to a new building in Radville.

On the south side of the street, near the railway, in 1911, appeared Picketts and Schurman's Hardware, presently occupied by Joe Carles' Red and White Store, a one storey building set up on stilts. These fore-sighted business men knew that the hill would have to be levelled down and that the dirt as removed would bring

#### DO YOU REMEMBER . . .

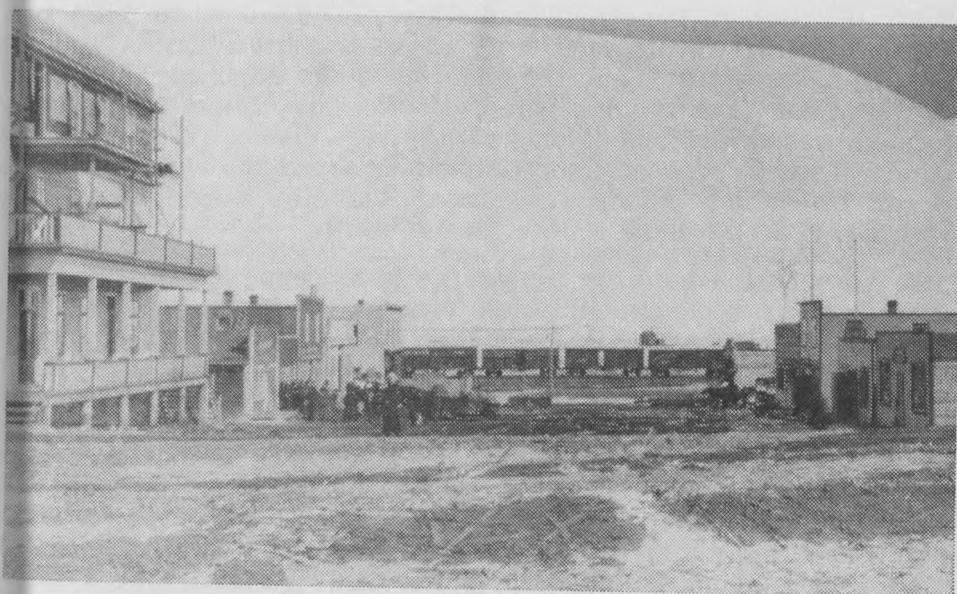
Joe Wong's Chinese suppers for business men?

Jake Wong's patience in dealing with the public?

Joe Shibley's sorrel delivery horse with his head turned from the vertical about 20 degrees?

the level of the street up to the store entrance. This is exactly what happened later. Set back from the street, on the lot adjoining the hardware, was a cottage owned by the same firm. This cottage was later moved to fourth avenue then moved again to first avenue east and now forms a portion of the home owned by Claude Delaye. There was nothing between the hardware and Ed Dienst's "Billiards and Bowling Parlors," which was built in 1911, on a lot the price of which was \$1100. Next to Dienst's building was a restaurant, operated by John Carlson and called the Radville Boarding House. In 1913 Joe Wong arrived, bought out Carlson and changed the name of the cafe to The New York Cafe. The location is now occupied by Tommy Chow's Elite Cafe.

Harry Koch, owning a drugstore in Midale, opened another store in Radville in 1911 with his brother Clarence as manager. Harry was one of the first buyers of a lot in Radville and came here before the railroad arrived. Another store (We think it was owned by Messonier) was built on the lot presently occupied by the Oasis Theatre. On the corner where the Canadian Bank of Commerce now stands was a small office with a big sign, "G. F. Blondell, Real Estate Agent." This enterprizing gentleman sold the lot later to the Bank for some \$2200.



Radville in 1912 before the present station was constructed.

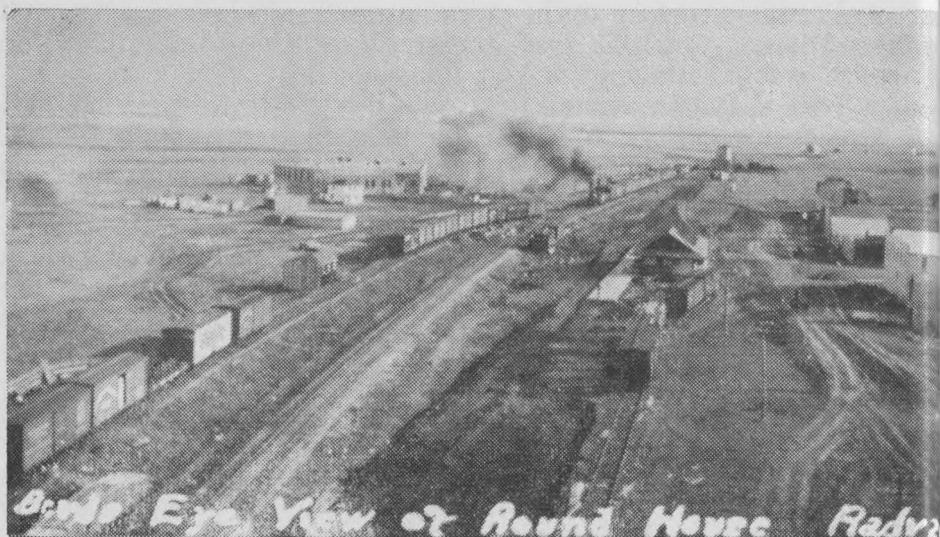
#### DO YOU REMEMBER . . .

Seam Dalton's ride on a horse right into Jake's restaurant?

The time that Peters' light pressure tank at the back of the store exploded, killing the clerk of the store?

The hitching posts in front of the stores? (We don't.)

Dr. Freddy Nelson's Chiropractic Office?



Bird's Eye View of Round House Radville

View of the Railroad development in fall of 1912. Note the grade for the tracks in front of the station.

Farther up the street in the next block were two more two storey buildings facing each other across the street, one where the Post Office now stands and the other on the lot adjoining the Gospel Mission. On first avenue, where MacRoberts Motors is present located, was an implement shed with a large display platform in the front. Directly opposite this implement business and where the Credit Union now stands was located Radville's third Livery Barn with Dr. O'Shea's home a little farther south.

On first avenue west near the hotel, opposite George Delano's present implement business was one of the busiest localities in the town. It was the Radville Livery, Feed and Sale Barn owned by Johnnie Williamson. Opposite the Radville Packers' present location was a two storey building built by C. G. T. Reetz and housed a Lodge Hall on the top floor with the Province Theatre occupying the ground floor. West of Ham Ferris' Princess Theatre was a flour and feed store erected in 1911, and owned by John Carson. Bourassa's John Deere now stands on this lot. The McIlrat Lumber Co. did not arrive until 1913 when W. A. McIlrath purchased the business from the Manufacturers' and Walker Lumber Companies who were already on the spot. (I believe Mr. Bundas' blacksmith shop in this vicinity came a year or so later. He was such

---

DO YOU REMEMBER . . .

When Gust Broman operated a butcher shop?

A public spirited young man named Alvin Reetz who died of cancer?

The Franklin air-cooled car of C. G. T. Reetz?

Hook Campbell's livery car?



Main street in spring of 1912. No station at this time.

good friend of all the boys, particularly those who rode bicycles; you see, he used to fix and oil all these machines without making a charge.

Such were the beginnings in 1911 and 1912. From that time on, building was general, new businesses appeared, bought and sold, and the town began to take a "lived in" appearance. We wish to mention a few of the more important businesses which appeared in those early days. For instance, back of Eby's store, on Railway Avenue all lots were occupied. One of such was a long one-storey building which was divided into a number of suites and occupied by certain transient families. It was later purchased by Albert Smith who converted it into a Chevrolet garage. It was finally offered for sale and was removed to the farms in sections to be used for barns and granaries. It is interesting to note that in the 1911 census, the population of Radville was shown to be 1300 of which a great number were employed in railway construction, CNR shops, CNR stores and ice house.

In 1912 the railway station was built before the rails were laid in front of it. Its location at the foot of main street was a wise decision. By 1913 the remainder of the empty lots on main street had been purchased and buildings erected. Next to the hotel came a two-storey frame building, now the back section of the Glencoe Cafe. At that time it was occupied by the Bon Ton Barber Shop and Dr. O'Shea's office. In the same year the village council re-

#### DO YOU REMEMBER . . .

The race that Bob Peters in his Chev had with Hook Campbell in his Model T right down main street from Clark's to the station? and do you remember how Hook couldn't stop and ran over the cement sidewalk into the side of the station?

Henry Clark as town constable or as a builder of fine buildings? (They still show splendid workmanship.)

moved some of the hill at the hotel and west of it and thus built up the lower part of the street near the station. New cement sidewalks were laid along main street. A two-storey building was then hauled in to fill the gap where Staff Simons' building now stands, but what happened to it we are not certain. George Thompson moved his business from Old Forward and the two-storey building mentioned above was replaced by the present structure, which now houses Gordon Hoffas' Barber Shop and Simons' Jewelry.

There have been many changes throughout the years in Radville's business. We mention one in particular. The Weyburn Security Bank sold its building and business to the Imperial Bank of Canada with McGraw Wilkinson continuing as manager. However it too closed its doors as the volume of business did not warrant



Radville, taken from the partially completed school in spring of 1912.

two banks at the time. The building with safe was then purchased by the town and is now used as a town office.

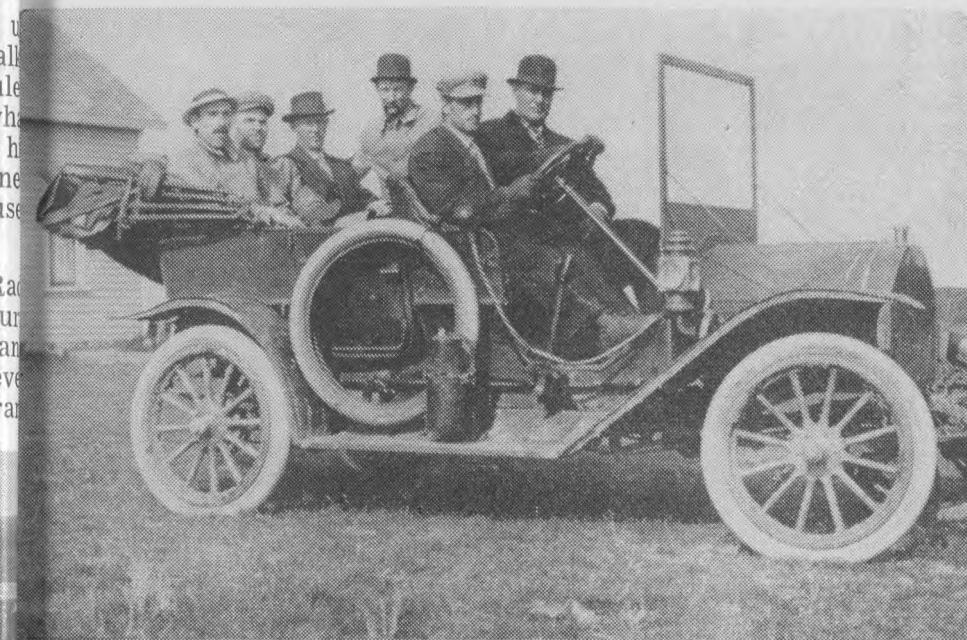
Each lot in town has its own story to relate. For instance, take the lot next to the one formerly owned by Picketts and Schuman. At first it was occupied by a cottage, as related above, with a nice grass yard and board walk leading to a wire fence near the sidewalk. Then the house was moved up main street to a new site and a two-storey building on the third lot was moved over beside the hardware. An additional storey was constructed above the hardware to match the building on the adjacent lot. Offices were

#### DO YOU REMEMBER . . .

Herb Reetz's four cylinder Dodge that could travel so slow in high gear that you could almost count its exhaust?

The ice cream parlor and soda fountain in Koch's drugstore?

W. A. McIlrath's integrity as a business man and his generosity in giving assistance to those who needed it?



Local business men out for a spin in the early days. Ernie Dionne is the proud driver with Pete Stuart, Sheriff, beside him. In the back seat, left to right: a Mr. Ruelle, H. R. Picketts, a land inspector, and Charlie Hill, standing up (hardware and post office master).

provided above the hardware and George Thompson was one of the first occupants. A Masonic Lodge hall was provided above the other part, which later housed a liquor store with Alf Johns as manager. At the present time the whole building is occupied by Joe Carles Red and White Store, his apartment, doctors' offices, etc.

Again, take the lot beside Kimball's Drugs. A general store was first built there. Later the store gave way to a pool room and a barber shop, operated by Alf Morley. This was followed by Poirier's Meat Market. Then a fire in the butcher shop destroyed the building for further use and nearly took Koch's Drugstore along with it. Finally the lot was made empty and for a number of years was used as a horse shoe competition ground. (Incidentally, one of our pioneers, Jack Bulloch, became the champion player, but he had difficulty with the local school principal.) The lot had been purchased

#### DO YOU REMEMBER . . .

How Joe Shibley would pile high a hamper and give it to those who were in dire need during the 30's?

How Emile Bourassa followed a pattern of service similar to that of W. A. McIlrath, and do you remember what good friends the two were?

Hugo Hayes in the Weyburn Security Bank and what a good fisherman he was?



1911 or 1912 in front of Joe Ayotte's store. Clarence Koch is snapping a picture. We believe it is R. B. Styke who is playing the French Horn. It was Styke who built the present United Church Manse.

by Shibley Brothers Enterprises, which company erected a very modern and artistic structure, the Oasis Theatre, on the site.

Another lot with an interesting history is the one on which now stands the Full Gospel Mission. Like so many others it first held a store. A Jewish gentleman was its first occupant, we believe. Business was not particularly brisk in this location and he was obliged to sell out and leave town. Then a Mr. Austin operated a second theatre there for a number of years. Do you remember how well Mrs. Austin could play the piano to suit the picture and how well Eddie could handle a trumpet? When the Austins sold out, the Young Fellows' Club purchased the building and used it for club rooms for a number of years. It then became a Church owned by the Full Gospel Mission, which is the present occupant.

Another lot with an interesting history is the one on the corner opposite to Ed. Crandell's home. The first building here was a small car-roofed shack owned by a Chinese gentleman who operated a laundry. It was later used as a small implement shed. Gas tanks were then buried here and the lot was used as a filling station. Later Adrian Roy purchased the business and opened a garage and implement agency. He did a very good business here.

---

DO YOU REMEMBER . . .

When a fine looking chap named Paul Daenckaert returned from overseas with a smile and an artificial arm?

Hearing Bob Leslie (Mrs. Clarence Koch's brother) tell of his exciting experiences in driving a Model T through the Loop in Chicago?

When the Moose Jaw Herald was our daily newspaper?



1913—A thriving business centre in the early days.

until fire destroyed the building. Adrian then moved to Brandon where he is presently doing very well indeed, winning a selling plaque for the whole Dominion of Canada. The Radville Co-operative Association then purchased the lot and erected a fully modern self-service grocery store which was opened for business in February, 1960.

Again, the Jack Seede store was built by Joe Ayotte, who later sold it to the Frasers. Finally in 1914, after operating a fleet of some twenty pedlars selling as far east as Manitoba, south to the boundary, west to Willow Bunch, Joe Shibley purchased the business, and remained as one of Radville's pioneer merchants for many years and until his death, at which time Bud and Hussen Shibley became joint managers. Later the business was sold to Jack Seede, the son-in-law of Joe Shibley, who has recently modernized the store.

The lot directly opposite the Memorial Hall also has an interesting and varied history. It was first used as a Chataqua grounds where some of the best entertainment ever to come to town was

#### DO YOU REMEMBER . . .

What a deep rich alto voice Mrs. Henry Clark had in choir and choral work?

Harry Dufton's blacksmith shop opposite George Delanoy's Implement Office?

How Jack Williamson and George Green used to play football?

provided by travelling musicians and other artists. Then Reg Eidsness from Gladmar built the present brick structure and opened a garage selling Durant and Star cars. After a few years Reg was obliged to sell. The building remained vacant during the 30's and was then purchased by John Cruesot who operated an implement and car agency until his health forced him to sell. The business was recently purchased by Stan Stadnick who continues as a car truck and implement agent.

The South Saskatchewan Star Office also has an interesting story to relate. The Radville News, a small weekly paper, was started on June 15, 1911 in the building just moved from across the track and now occupied by Paul Marion's Electric. It was operated by the Comstock Brothers. In a couple of years a small building was moved on to the site of the present South Saskatchewan Star. In about 1914, David Bradley purchased the business and he continued its operation until 1923 when Bill Schierholtz purchased it



Radville as it is today looking north. Note the lovely trees planted during the depression. One of the prime movers in this project was none other than Gerry Bertrand, Doc. O. H. Bertrand's son and these prove to be quite a monument to him and the many others who assisted. Jerry lost his life in the last war.

#### DO YOU REMEMBER . . .

Murray Skelton as the fastest and headiest hockey player on the team

Doc Bertrand's Essex and how Doc loved to sing?

The poker den under the hotel?

How John Deshors and Richard Forand knew all there was to know about Model T cars?



Radville looking north west. Note the lovely church, hospital, and Marion Home in the foreground.

changed the name from Radville News to its present name and extended the building both at the side and rear. In 1928 Oscar Stitt arrived from Brandon and bought the business from David Bradley — as Oscar says, 32 long years ago. Mr. Stitt added a new linotype machine as well as a new printing and folding machine for the newspaper.

What about the building now occupied by Clark's Sunset Hardware? It was built as told above by Charlie Hill in 1911. Charlie sold out to the Peters Brothers, Bob and Alf, who continued its operation as a hardware. Peters, because of bad times, was forced into bankruptcy and the building remained vacant for some time. Bob Robertson then purchased it and operated a combination pool room and club. In 1923 Bob sold out to Harry Watson who again converted the building into a hardware which he continued to operate until his death. His son Victor moved the building to its present location as a Marshall-Wells Store.

No history of Radville would be complete without reference to Harry Koch and his drug store. As mentioned above Harry built the store in 1911 and had his brother Clarence operate it for him,

#### DO YOU REMEMBER . . .

The shirt tail parades?

How Picketts used to turn the loud speaker of his radio towards the town main street so that others could hear the program, and this was from the home of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Clark, Edouard Dionne's today?

until Clarence moved to Harris, Saskatchewan, where he died on April 23, 1937. Harry continued the operation of the store until May, 1951, in which year he sold the business to the Kimball Brothers, Vincent and Murray, who are continuing its operation. Harry's health gave out on him and he died on October 6, 1955. His drug store motto was, "If it ought to be here, it is here," and that is the way Harry lived his own life, giving of his very best in the service of his fellow citizens and we are sorry indeed that he can't be here in person to take part in our Golden Anniversary celebrations.

The Hotel has its own story also. It was constructed in the fall of 1911 with the third storey added in the spring of 1912. C. G. T. Reetz was its owner and it has passed through many hands. Ed Ayotte was a manager at one time before Foster purchased it from the Reetz family. Foster may have sold it to a Mrs. Ellison, whose son-in-law, a Mr. Mann, was responsible for its operation. At this time many improvements were made. It was then sold to the Reddick Brothers, who let the place run down again due to lack of clientele. However, on Friday, October 13, 1932, Jack Vennard bought it and turned it into the modern structure it is today. We believe the advent of the beer parlor in 1934 greatly assisted in the upkeep of the business. Jack's health began to trouble him and following an operation at Rochester in 1949, Jack sold the hotel to Ray McDonald, its present owner. Ray likewise has made many improvements and now it is a licensed outlet for wine and liquors as well as a fully modern hotel.

Emile Bourassa bought out John Carlson's flour and feed, coal and wood business in 1924. In 1927 Emile took over a John

---

Do you think that TV and Radio have replaced such escapades as the following? Doc McKay, Herb Reetz, Candy Anderson and a few more of the "boys" are reported to have been raiders of certain chicken coops. They always very politely invited the owner of the chickens to attend their banquet. On one occasion Doc McKay thought it would be a good idea to tell the owner, Frank Smith, who lived in the cottage now vacant, one mile west of town, at the turn of the golf links, that the boys were coming out to rob his chicken coop, and to be ready with a good shot gun. When they arrived at the chicken coop, Jack Lounds entered along with Doc who stood at the door holding a sack to receive the chickens as Jack handed them to him. A few squawks were heard, the back door of Frank Smith's opened and the loud report of a shot gun was heard. Doc drops to the ground after staggering a short distance, groans and apparently dies quickly. Jack Lounds dropped the bag, jumps over Doc's prostrate body, and ran all the way to town leaving Candy and Herb in the waiting car on the road. He went to get Mayor Picketts and informed him that the Doc had been killed. Jack's anger at being the victim of a joke far exceeded his relief at finding Doc hearty and well.

#### DO YOU REMEMBER . . .

How fond Clarence Koch was of sports, hockey, baseball, football, etc., and how his Buick car always took the players to the games?

Deere agency and added to the back and side of the old business store, in 1944. The modern front was added in 1952, and the Plymouth cars and Fargo Truck agencies were added to the business. Emile died on April 25, 1953, and his three sons, Albert, Armand and Lionel have continued in their father's steps, further enlarging and constantly improving the business wherever they find it necessary.

Then again, the lot next to the town office could tell a real story. It first held a small building owned by a tailor by the name of Duffy. Later Henry Clark and someone else built the front part of the present building and it was used as a pool room and barber shop, with fine new tables and bright surroundings. Later it became a post office and was the best post office building we had had up to that time. George Herbert, a returned man with an artificial leg, was the postmaster at the time. Later it became a general store with Mr. Stovin the proprietor. (His son-in-law, Mr. Gaudion, was an excellent violinist.) Mr. Theobald replaced Mr. Stovin and Mr. R. A. Evans, a former school teacher, bought out Theobald, and continued the operation of the store until after World War II, at which time he sold out to Joe Carles, who opened a Red and White store. Joe later moved to a different location. Finally the building was purchased by Vic Watson, who operated it as a Marshall-Wells Hardware, a completely modern business. Recently Vic sold the business to Maurice McIlrath, who continues to run it as a Marshall Wells Store.

Many are the stories that could be related in connection with business but the brief outline above proves that change is certain in any trading society. There has been a definite trend away from the small multiple business to the large specialized stores. The building of better roads brings customers from a greater distance and likewise provides the opportunity for Radville people to become customers at larger centres. This is most unfortunate, as a town the size of Radville must have the loyal support of its citizens in order to maintain the services it presently provides. Radville's business places are now owned and operated by the sons of the pioneers, in other words, the second generation with an outlook geared to modernization, competition and progress. A partial list would include

---

Do any of you know the fellow who had become a little too inebriated and woke up the next morning in one of Jimmie Hink's coffins in his undertaking parlors?

Mr. Moon was a lawyer in Radville in the early days. On one occasion he was having a little snooze in a restaurant, his head on a table. A prospective customer roused him and asked, "Are you Mr. Moon the lawyer?" "Yes," Moon replied, "and I'm a full moon too."

We are also told that Candy Anderson woke up one morning to find the sun beating in on him through a window in the morgue at the grave yard. He wasn't convinced however that that was where he should be.

the Bourassa boys, Kimball brothers, Bill Robertson, Hussian and Bud Shibley, Joe Carles, Tommy Chow, Eddie Flynn, Clark Bros., Vic Watson, Maurice McIlrath, Allan Roth, Alec Karout, Gordon Hoffas, Bill Winchell, Peter Fradette, Jack Seede, McCracken Bros., George Delanoy, Stan Stadnick, Jules Legault, Marcel Tetreault, John Cancade, Melton Hunter, to mention a few. They as younger citizens will no doubt continue in the proud tradition of the pioneers of our country.

---

Ed Reetz was once on the "water getting committee" for a reception for the returned men in 1918. Ed had gone to the well at Mrs. Wakefield's home (now occupied by Albert Bourassa) and found a padlock on the pump. He returned to the Province Theatre where the reception was being held and asked Mrs. Wakefield for the key. She replied: "You'll find it just inside the screen door hanging on a hook." Ed. and your committee chairman returned to the well for the water. Ed found the key and pumped the water. He then put the key into the lock and threw lock and key into McIlrath's lumber yard across the street. When Ed and his helper returned to the hall, Mrs. Wakefield gushingly inquired, "Did you have any trouble finding the key, Mr. Reetz?" to which Ed replied in that slow drawl of his, as he walked away: "No, no trouble at all, but you're going to have a little trouble finding it."

# Municipal History

---

## CHAPTER IV

### A. LAURIER RURAL MUNICIPALITY No. 38

As early as 1902, homesteaders' shacks dotted the lonely prairie in what is now known as Laurier Municipality. Hospitality, honesty, and belief in a man's word were the laws by which these pioneers lived. But organization is a primary requisite in any society in which men are closely associated and so Municipal governments were established to legislate on matters concerning local districts.

The Rural Municipality of Laurier No. 38 was established on December 13, 1909, in response to a petition sponsored by C. B. Bergerson, Lindoff Bourassa, R. Van Alstine, E. Sylvester and T. S. Morrissette. It was formed from parts of three Local Improvement Districts. The first elected officials were Reeve E. A. Desmarais and Councillors L. A. Smith, J. B. Martin, J. Stephenson, C. C. B. Rowe, A Prost, W. L. Jensen, with C. B. Bergerson as secretary-treasurer.

It would appear that the idea for a name for the newly formed municipality arose from the fact that Sir Wilfrid Laurier, a very popular prime minister, made a brief stop in Weyburn about the time that the municipality was established.

During the fifty years since the municipality was founded, only six reeves have held office, which fact, we believe, sets somewhat of a record for service. A. E. Desmarais served from 1911 to 1913, and Harry Anderson for the next seventeen years, the longest record for continuous service. Emile Bourassa served from 1932 to 1934 and again in 1942. But P. C. Peterson, who took office for the first time in 1935, has the longest record in our municipality, being reeve from 1935 to 1941, 1943 to 1953, 1955 and 1956. Maurice Fossenier served one year, 1954, and the present reeve, Wilfrid Bouchard, assumed office in 1957.

There have been but seven secretaries since the Municipality began. C. B. Bergerson during 1910 and 1911, J. A. Saindon from 1912 until he passed away in March, 1934. Miss Lenore Allen was acting secretary for the balance of 1934 and until May of 1935 at which time W. G. Hoffman assumed the position, resigning in September of 1939. Jack Heaney, Ambrose Heaney's brother, was secretary from 1939 to April, 1941, when Frances L. Parsons took

---

#### DO YOU REMEMBER . . .

The time that the town council, following Hallowe'en, forced certain "young fellers" to perform setting up exercises?

office. Miss Parsons continued from May, 1941, to May, 1959, when the present secretary, Martin Thermeir, began in June, 1959. Councillors through the years have been Adolphe Larson, L. H. Thompson, Harry Looyson, W. A. Turner, A. Bourassa, E. H. Johnson, Felix Bert, L. A. Smith, J. B. Martin, J. Stephenson, C. C. B. Rowe, A Prost, W. L. Jensen, Walter Johnson, A. Torgenrud, Chas. Watson R. VanAlstine, H. Thompson, P. B. Calladine, Mr. Nichol, A. Smith Nels Thompson, P. C. Peterson, L. Cherpin, R. Eidsness, L. J. Bourassa, Mr. Rainault, M. Forshee, John Stockton, L. I. Lindskog, John Ekblom, Donat Paulhus, Albert Galarneau, Pres. Barrett Henry Lacaille, Arnold King, Albert Fradette, Wilfrid Bouchard, M. J. Doud, Alfred Larsen, Adolphe Krausher, Hector Gilmore, Gerard Bouchard. Here's a record that is hard to beat: P. B. Calladine was first elected to the Municipal Council in 1918 representing division 4, and he has held that position ever since, a total of forty-two years. We congratulate him on the honorable achievement he has made and sincerely hope his health remains good so that he may continue to bask in the sunshine of such a record.

The first municipal office was a single-room building 12'x16' but in 1928 the present office situated on nicely treed grounds was constructed. It contains a spacious council hall, a fine main office with a private office at the rear. It is fully modern and one of the best equipped in the province.

At the time of the organization of the municipality, the main road called the Boundary Commission Trail, crossed the municipality from the SW quarter of Section 30, Township 6, Range 18, west of the second meridian to SE 24-4-16 W. 2nd on the east. What a change in a few years! At the present time there are approximately 134 miles of graded road and 89 miles of gravelled road in addition to Highway No. 28 which runs north and south through the municipality. In 1946 an American No. 8 patrol was purchased to maintain the roads but with the expanding road program, it was found to be inadequate, so in 1953 a second American No. 8 Patrol was obtained. A new D6 Caterpillar tractor was secured in 1954. This tractor is equipped with a hydraulic bulldozer and cable unit. With the new grid system now being put into effect by the Provincial Government, it is hoped that the road program will forge ahead even faster than in the past.

The Provincial Power Commission has extended its lines throughout the municipality and many of the farm homes have been made modern in every respect, which has led to permanency in agriculture, and we are proud indeed of the general improvements the farmers have made during the past few years.

About two miles north of town, the Radville District Experimental Sub-Station was set up in 1922, and operated by Olaf Anderson. It was taken over and operated by J. H. Stockton from 1924

#### DO YOU REMEMBER . . .

Oscar Stitt's aromatic cigar, following a particularly long council session?



Radville water treatment plant  
owned by  
the municipality.



An early picture of the Town Office.  
Here taxes and water bills are still  
being collected.

until 1940 and since that time has been under the ownership and management of Levee Brothers, Glen and Carol, and now by Levee and Son. It is the only Sub-Station on Trossachs Clay Loam (Burn-out Land) in Canada and there are over three million acres of this type of soil in Saskatchewan. The operators keep accurate records in soil and water conservation, crop rotations, grain variety tests and cost of production data. In this connection it has been proved beyond a doubt that with large machinery and correct methods this land is among the most productive in the municipality and much credit indeed goes to the Levees for their leadership in this field.

Another remarkable achievement was made by Carl Larsen. In 1931, Carl, much against the advice of his friends, took over a bleak piece of land just north of Radville in the bend of the river. Carl could make a palm tree grow on an ice-berg, and he turned that hideous spot into what is now known as Riverside Gardens, one of the beauty spots, not only of this district, but of Saskatchewan. The modern home of the Larsens stands in a setting of beautiful grounds surrounded by large evergreens, lovely flower gardens, lawns, even a swan pool where two fine birds swim gracefully around. This farm home has been visited and admired by people from near and far. About seven years ago the farm was filmed by the Superintendent of the Indian Head Experimental Station and the picture has been shown all over Canada. In July of 1955, a CBC commentator interviewed Mr. Larsen and that inter-

---

Laurier was a very popular Prime Minister at the time our municipality was formed. The story is told that when Prince George and Princess Mary visited the City of Quebec, one French Canadian at the train exclaimed to his companion. "There's Prince George, et sa femme, they're going to be the next king and queen of the British Empire." To which his friend replied: "Dat so? Dey must stand in well wit Laurier."

view was broadcast over the Yorkton station. Recently the farm

was filmed for TV.

Many other homes in the district could be mentioned if space permitted.

## B. RADVILLE TOWN MUNICIPALITY

Today when we view the enterprising Town of Radville and see its lovely treed streets, its fine business places, its hospital and Marion Home, its churches and schools, its parks, we experience a comfortable feeling that here is a well settled and stable community with a future as well as a past. Yet just fifty years ago this town was non-existent, and where it now stands was the undeveloped farm of Conrad Paquin. As the village began to grow a name had to be chosen. The name Conrad was first selected, but it was found that there were other places in Canada possessing the same name so the Rad was taken from Conrad, and the French word for town or city, "ville," added to the end, hence the name Radville appeared and we believe it is the only one in Canada.

Although the Village of Radville came into existence in 1910, it was not before January 30, 1911 that the first council meeting was held. Charlie Hill's Hardware store was the scene of this first conclave. Charlie had been elected Mayor and Joe Ayotte and Eddie Reetz were the first councillors.

Many problems must have faced this new inexperienced body of governors but there is evidence to the effect that they got "right to work" and set up a sound system of Laws and By-Laws which form the basis of all municipal legislation passed since that time. There were also numerous problems peculiar to this village alone. The very first resolution passed was to have A. O. Sawdy close his poolroom at 10:30 P.M. Other problems encountered at this first meeting were the securing of postal service, the location of a nuisance ground for the village and the obtaining of a village constable. His duties were to enforce the town's by-laws, and to collect the poll tax, dog taxes and business licenses. This first meeting also appointed C. J. Moon as the first secretary-treasurer of the village at an annual salary of \$100.

Later meetings passed additional by-laws covering many aspects of the activities of the village, such things as pedlar's licenses, slaughter houses. There was even a by-law preventing horse-racing on the streets and also cruelty to animals. The very first by-law was one of which they must have been very proud. It read as follows: "A common seal shall be adopted for the Village of

---

### DO YOU REMEMBER . . .

The headache the council had over digging of a hole for a water reservoir, and how the rains came, causing a cave-in and how Jack Williamson was the only one who ever made use of it?

Radville. This seal shall consist of a metallic plaque with the words and figures:

**"Village of Radville,  
Province of Saskatchewan,  
Incorporated 1911"**

inscribed on it."

(Note: The village was started in 1910 and this is the reason for our fiftieth anniversary being celebrated in 1960.)

By-law number 12 was passed "to encourage the planting of trees and preventing injury thereof." At this time fifty cents a tree was paid to anyone planting shade trees and the same amount also deducted from the planter's taxes. By-law No. 7 was intended to regulate the cleanliness and health of the village. R. A. Wheeler became the first health inspector and Dr. D. A. McKay became the first health officer. By-laws regulated the size of doors and stairways of public buildings, enforced the placing of main street buildings in a straight line, saw to the safety of the village residents from fire, burglary, etc. In May, 1911, the first tenders were let for the building of a fire guard around the village—the fireguard to consist of 7 furrows, plowed and disked. Tenders were also let for a lock-up (jail) and a firehall. Mr. Wheeler submitted the lowest tender for the building (12'x14') of \$202.30. The first fire engine and firebell was purchased in July, 1911. People didn't like taxes any more than than now for at the first court of revision in the secretary's office there were people too numerous to list and all protesting their assessment.

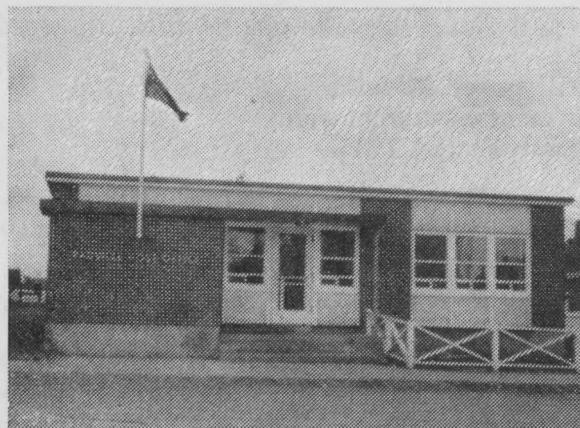
By 1912, we find things moving right along. In July, tenders were called for the laying of 10,200 square feet of cement sidewalk on the main street, and later that same year wooden planks were secured for sidewalks elsewhere. In May, 1912, the town set up a sports ground and in 1914 debentures were issued in the amount of \$5000 for the purchase of land for this purpose. Speeding of automobiles was a grave problem then as now. In August, 1912, a by-law was passed limiting the speed of automobiles to eight miles an hour.

Another proud moment came when notices were posted requesting people to vote on the question of whether or not they wished Radville to be incorporated as a town. The voting proved favorable and the first nomination day was held in the office of H. A. McCuaig, the returning officer.

The Town of Radville was then incorporated in June, 1913, and the first council meeting of the Town was held on June 27, 1913. The meetings were held on the second and fourth Thursdays of the months in the Municipal Hall of Laurier Municipality. The first mayor of the town was Pete Stuart and the first councillors were

---

Did you know that in those early days when money was somewhat scarce, that C. G. T. Reetz used to pay the salaries of the school teachers until the taxes came in.



Radville Post Office  
on Main Street

Dad Hober, John Eby, Charlie Hill, Mr. Barnum, H. R. Picketts  
Joe Ayotte.

Bigger and better things were to come as a result of incorporation and as we trace the growth of the town up through the years we find much thought and planning has been given the development of the good town in which we live.

It is impossible to give the complete story in a history of nature and we shall confine our events to the most important in tabulated form.

Year	Event
1914	Board walks for Railway avenue. Council finances the brass band. 300 trees planted at the sports ground—5 cents a tree. Mill rate—13 for town, 17 for school. Fire hall extended to make room for court room.
1916	David Bradley hired as town secretary. Addition to fire hall and digging of reservoirs for machine. C.N.R. delivered 2000 yards of gravel, 10c a yard, for street.
1917	Henry Clark in charge of handling hose for the fire department. First man at the scene of a fire with a tank of water \$10.00.
1919	Ratepayers' meeting to discuss building of a hospital. W. McIlrath elected as chairman of hospital board.
1921	By-law set license fees which included wrestling and boxing \$10.00.

---

DO YOU REMEMBER . . .

When the town council was going to have W. A. McIlrath arrested chipping the cement sidewalks with a hammer to prove that the contractor was not using the correct formula for the cement. And Mac was right.

- 1924—Town meeting voted in favor of accepting title to rink property opposite the printing office.  
Tenders awarded for the proposed Electric Light Plant.
- 1925—H. R. Picketts appointed manager of Electric Light Plant.  
Electric lights extended across the tracks to eastern section of the town.  
Fourth addition to the Town Hall, town constable to occupy the premises.
- 1926—Discussion regarding a covered skating rink for 1927.
- 1927—Town issued debentures for \$4500 to help pay for the rink.
- 1928—Town made donation to the Canadian Legion for the erection of the Memorial Hall.  
Trees ordered from Prairie Nurseries for planting at the Fair Grounds.  
Lot 7 Block 4 set aside as a Memorial Park.  
Approval given for the building of sidewalks on the avenues.
- 1929—C.N.R. Land Block 20 purchased for a rink.  
Constable Dalton appointed as truant officer.  
Offer from the Dominion Electric to purchase town system; accepted; additional street lights were installed.  
Vote on fast time was favorable.  
By-law respecting Wednesday half-holiday for stores carried.  
Speed limit in town increased to 15 miles per hour.  
Completion of the skating and curling rink in November.
- 1931—First curfew system set up. C. B. Bergerson town constable.
- 1934—First rumor of C.N.R. closing railway shops because of water shortage in dry years—Water had to be hauled in by train.  
Town purchased half interest in Golf Club mower, \$45.00.  
E. J. Theobald resigned from council, T. E. Cousins replaced him.  
Councillor took relief recipients to Northern Saskatchewan in order to find work.  
John Deshors resigned as engineer on fire brigade. Stan Smith took his place.
- 1935—Attempt to get Wyoming-Montana Railroad to build through this point.
- 1935—A Band was organized — town owning the instruments — Arnold Brammer and Alf Johns in charge.  
Rate of pay for indigent labor 35c an hour.
- 1936—Tree planting scheme organized—Dr. G. L. Crane, Henry

---

**DO YOU REMEMBER . . .**

That Edna Roth, although she doesn't want to admit it, was the first baby in the Ceylon district? Edna is the wife of a former mayor of our town, W. N. Roth. (Incidentally, her dad Rodie Mason, drove the first wagon over the hill into The Gap Municipality.)

Clark, Jack McLaughlin and a high school student, George Bertrand, in charge.

- 1937—Price of milk raised to 10c a quart. Relief a real problem.  
Speed limit raised to 20 miles per hour.  
Council bought its first typewriter.  
Swimming Pool complete—George Thompson, Mayor.
- 1938—Swimming Pool registered—Employment of a life guard.  
Senior Boy Scouts under direction of E. B. McKay in attendance as life guards.
- 1939—"Circus in Town."  
Second World War added to difficulties of Municipal government.

Here we wish to list some of the items that our councils over the years have had to face. Many are routine and many difficult of decision. The list would include: ladies' rest room, fire prevention, extension of avenues, repair of sidewalks, scavenger service, installation of more town lights, purchasing of the skating rink and payment of its debt, R.C.M.P. reports, licenses, utility men, auditor accounts, social aid, medical services, Workmen's Compensation Board, the Hospital, the Marian Home, school board assessments, back lanes, clean-up drives, snow removal, building a dam, repair of town hall, the Memorial Hall, courts of revision, building permits, sale of debentures, the Power Commission, and literally thousands of others too numerous to mention.

Possibly the most recent and greatest achievement of the Town Council has been the installation of Water and Sewerage for the town. The council in office when this was accomplished consisted of Metro Smigarouski, Mayor, and Councillors Jack Vennar, Leon Carles Jr., Reg Mansfield, W. F. Robertson, Stan Binns and George Clark. This installation is a whole story in itself but the result is that Radville has become a modern town with every convenience offered by the city.

The overseers and mayors that have served Radville for the past 50 years are: 1911, Charlie Hill; 1912 and 1913, Joe Ayott; 1914-1915, Pete Stuart; 1916, John Eby; 1917-1918, H. R. Pickett; 1919, C. G. T. Reetz; 1920, McGray Wilkinson; 1920-1924, H. R. Picketts; 1925, C. G. T. Reetz; 1926, H. R. Picketts; 1927-1928, C. G. T. Reetz; 1930-1932, W. A. McIlrath; 1933-1934, G. M. Cryderman; 1935-1937, George S. Thompson; 1935-1939, W. A. McIlrath; 1940-1941, Orin Rosengren; 1942-1943, R. A. Evans; 1944, A. A. Johns; 1945-1951, O. D. Stitt; 1952, W. N. Roth; 1953 to present, M. Smigarouski.

The town clerks for the above period have been J. A. Sandon, David Bradley, up to 1919. From 1920 to 1943, Murray L. [unclear]

---

An old timer is one who looks back and sees that the only problem about parking in the old days was to get her to agree to it.

Skelton. From 1943 to 1956 R. A. Evans served as town clerk, his place being taken by Bill Calibaba, who is our present secretary.

Town councillors during this period include Messrs: Hober, Eby, Hill, Johnnie Williamson, Barnum, Picketts, J. Ayotte, Alfred Carlson, Wilson, W. A. McIlrath, C. G. T. Reetz, Valde, Dienst, Clarence Koch, Jim Dawson, Bob Peters, Clarence Skeels, McG. Wilkinson, E. B. Patterson, Tom Speedie, Pete Stewart, John Shibley, Harry Gamble, T. E. Cousins, Stovin, Bill Schierholtz, Bundas, Ernie Graham, Nelson, George Herbert, George Thompson, Alf Johns, Bill Purnell, Bill Ferguson, Lawrence Haden, Andy Lovatt, Orin Rosengren, Lees, Dan Irving, G. M. Cryderman, Theobald, Harry Watson, A. Copeland, Spence, Adam Douglas, A. Lafreniere, U. J. G. Schurman, Harry Koch, Edgar Reid, Brodeur, Ted Hargreaves, Joe Rink, Jack Williamson, W. N. Roth, Floyd Cousins, R. A. Evans, Jack Seede, Gordon Cairns, Adrian Roy, J. E. Baikie, H. N. Lukes, Pat Evans, Elton Alton, Alvin Hurlburt, Harold Hurlburt, Stan Binns, Vince Kimball, Leon Carles, Jr., Jack Vennard, Reg. Mansfield, Bill Robertson, George Clark, Dr. I. Scott and Armand Prost. We believe that of the above councillors, the one with the longest record of service is Ernie Graham, and we extend to him our sincerest congratulations.

Since World War II, Radville has experienced a steady growth, not of the "Boom" variety but by a healthy development based on community prosperity. In 1959 our building permits amounted to a total of \$108,000, our mercury vapor street lights now number 82 and street signs are being added by the Kiwanis Club. Our business men have modern shops and show an unbounded confidence in the future of the town.

---

#### DO YOU REMEMBER . . .

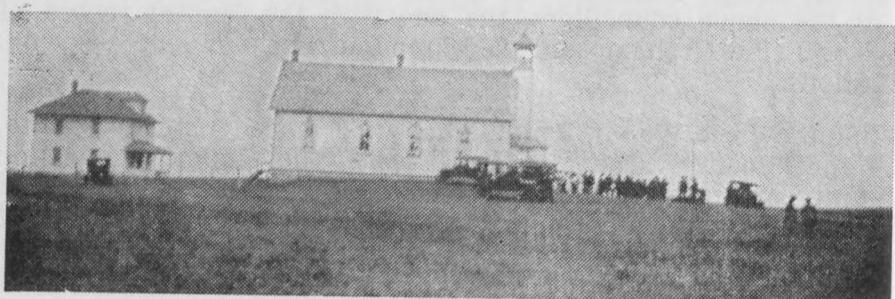
That Mrs. Margaret Anderson, wife of Harry Anderson, a former reeve who had the longest continuous record for that office, is in possession of a copy of the menu for the banquet put on the day that the first train came into Radville? There was no haggis on the menu either.

# Religious Life

---

## CHAPTER V

With the arrival of the early settlers to begin new homes came also those brave men of God to establish new churches and to keep before the eyes of our pioneers something of the higher things of life. Among the first to arrive in this area was the reverend Louis Nadeau who became resident priest of the Ste. Germaine Parish in 1906, and who was instrumental in the construction of the Souris Valley church in 1907. Also in 1906 "un jeune pretre, Mr Labbe A. Jacquet pria possession d'une terre sur la section 12, 5, 1907 W2'me, sur une hauteur au coin de sa terre. Il planta sa canne et s'ecria, 'Ici Seigneur, je batirai votre temple.' Il bati avec son pere une hutte en tourbe et celebrait la messe tous les dimanches jusqu'a l'annee 1908 ou l'eglise a ete commencer et fini en 1909 et



Souris Valley Roman Catholic Church, built in 1907. Rectory added in 1915.

a ete dedie a la patronne Ste Collette. Cette paroisse est situee a quinze miles au sud-ouest de Radville."

In 1912, Souris Valley became a mission of Radville under Fathers Prud'homme and Gendron. However in 1915, Rev. D. Thibault became the new resident priest. In 1918 his place was taken by Rev. A. Fortin, but in 1919 Souris Valley again became a mission of Radville under Fathers Kugener and Morrissette, and remained so until 1928 at which time Father Levesque arrived as a resident priest. Fr. G. O. Morrissette was parish priest from 1934 to 1939. In 1939 Father Yandeau of Radville served Souris Valley as a mission. Father Granger and Langlais served from 1940 to 1952 at which time assistant priests were appointed for Souris Valley and Ste. Collette, but who were resident in Radville. These included Fathers Beaudry, George L'Heureux and Marcotte. The very first trustees of the Souris Valley Church were L. J. Bourassa, J. B. Martin and Joe Renault.

Shortly after the formation of the Village of Radville, the

rst Roman Catholic Church was erected in October 1912, on land purchased from the Canadian Northern Railway, its site being the location of the present fair grounds. The members of the first advisory board were Joe Ayotte, Donat Dionne, T. Morrissette, Dr. Shea and Mr. Dandanault. J. A. Saindon was the first secretary and Father Prud'homme the first parish priest. The latter died here in 1913.

In 1913, the church was moved to near its present site and rebuilt with Father Gendron as priest. In 1915 the parish donated to the Sisters of St. Louis the land where the separate school now stands. Father Nadeau succeeded Father Gendron. 1916 saw the first official visit of Bishop Mathieu to administer confirmation. From 1917 to 1919 Father Bonney was in charge and his work was then taken up by Father Kugener who continued for six years. Father Morrissette then arrived from Quebec and spent fourteen years with us as parish priest. His successor was Father E. A. Yandea who came in 1939 and has been with us from that time. Assisting priests since 1939 have been Fathers Daley, Lambertus, Beaudry, George L'Heureux and the present assistant, Father Larcotte.

The zeal and foresight of Father Yandea during the past twenty years has left a deep impression on the religious and cultural life of our community. Due to his untiring efforts the Radville and District Community Hospital became a reality. The need for a new church had been evident for years and under his guidance, a beautiful brick church was erected in 1950 with a seating capacity of some three hundred and fifty and an interior so attractive that it is an inspiration to all who enter. The basement is equipped with modern kitchens, a recreational hall and a two lane bowling alley. Father Yandea's guiding hand was also given in the construction of the St. Joseph's Hospital and Marian Home.

The parish, seeing the need for a better rectory constructed a modern new building in 1958. This structure matches the church and meets the ever expanding needs of an active parish. The old rectory was sold to Mr. Beaudry who moved it to another site.

The Church has two Ladies' Societies which work for the advancement of the church. These are the Catholic Women's League and the Ladies of Ste. Anne. The present officers of the C.W.L. are Mrs. Peter Bourassa, President and Mrs. R. A. Dionne, Secretary. Mrs. Clement Bourassa and Mrs. P. Stadnick are president and secretary respectively of the Ladies of Ste. Anne. Such is a partial history of religious life in the Roman Catholic parishes.

"Righteousness Exalteth A Nation." What has become known as Radville United Church, began in the first decade of this century as a Methodist Church. The first worship services were held by a student, E. Holt, above Vernon's Store, soon to be Eby's Store, (Where Melda's Dress Shop is presently located). This was in the fall of 1910. A Sunday School was organized and during the same winter of 1910-1911, Prayer Meetings were held Wednesday nights.

During the spring of 1911, the Reverend Harry arrived to conduct services, not only in Radville but at the Great West school as well. The congregation there was known as Daleview. Mr. and Mrs. J. I. McDermid were often hosts to Mr. Harry when he came to the school district either on foot or by "horse and buggy," and stayed with them over Saturday night. Such cordiality was often extended to the ministers then, who were called "Circuit Riders". It was probably about this time that Colgate was a part of the circuit. Ladies' Aid was formed sometime during 1911.

In the fall of 1911, Reverend Arthur Lavender came to stay until the following year when Reverend G. H. Dix replaced him. Mr. Dix provided good leadership and expanded the circuit travelling far south and west to Soda Lake School. These were momentous years for as the pioneers were building their homes they saw the need of a permanent church home. In 1912, a church building was begun, Bob Wheeler, contractor, and in 1913, the Methodist Church was finished. It is the same building that stands as a centre of worship and service, but now called the United Church. The building committee for the Methodist Church was composed of these people and perhaps others; H. R. Picketts, local hardware and automobile distributor, chairman, Dr. D. A. McKay, Pete Stuart, Mrs. H. Clark, Miss Minnie Wallin.

The last lady mentioned, Miss Minnie Wallin was probably the first organist. She was succeeded by Mrs. Tom Cousins who served for a time as organist while Mrs. Henry Clark was choir leader for great many years.

In the ensuing years, from 1915 to the late 1940's, the Church

Father Louis Nadeau, first  
parish priest of Souris Valley,  
from 1906 to 1912.



experienced trying times. These were the years of war and depression and war again, and they drained much vitality from the community. The railroad, while bringing a certain prosperity to the town, brought also a floating population to the detriment of organizations seeking stability. However some items during these years deserve notice.

Here is a clipping from the **Radville News**, the local newspaper, 1916, which indicates the considerable interest in the matter of church union: "The much discussed question of the union of the Congregational, Methodist and Presbyterian churches was practically settled by the general assembly of the latter church which met in Winnipeg a few days ago; the vote as taken showed a very large majority in favor of the proposed union; consequently it will be only a matter of time, possibly two years, until the three bodies will be united in one denomination known as the Union Church of Canada". 1925 saw these discussions materialize and the Radville Methodist became the Radville United Church. For a time in 1926, no minister served the church but it was nevertheless used. For about four months the church was used as a classroom when it was found at the beginning of the fall term that the Public School was overcrowded.

A succession of ministers came and went: G. H. Wilding, (1916), W. R. Morrison (1918), W. P. Cleave (1920), D. P. Morris (1921), W. G. Hancock (1926), lay supply (1927-1928), G. H. Edgar (1928), H. J. Kinley (1929), W. F. E. Inglis (1931), J. T. Gawthrop (1936). H. W. L. Barkly (1942), George Payne (1944), Dr. Booth (1945).

While there was for a considerable time relative inactivity in the church, there were some laymen who tried to keep the wheels rolling in co-operation with the resident ministers during the 1930's. J. H. Stockton was a frequent lay preacher as well as a strong Sunday School worker. Another similar leader was J. H. Eby, a local merchant; he occasionally conducted the services and spoke. The organization of the Pentecostal Church drew some of the people from the United Church.

In 1946, with the War over, a new vitality began to creep into the Church's life. The Reverend F. E. Phinney was minister of the congregation for two years until illness forced him to enter a sanitorium. However, during this time the first stages of renovation to the manse were accomplished. A student, W. A. Thomas, conducted the services during the winter of 1948-49. The Reverend C. R. McMurtry came in 1949. Under his leadership a fine basement was built under the present church. Manse renovation proceeded to make it a better place in which to live. Sometime during 1950-51, the Radville Pastoral charge was enlarged to include Khedive, twenty-two miles to the north-west, along with Trossachs which had been included some years earlier. (1918). During these years a Junior Women's Association was formed. During the pastorate of Mr. McMurtry, some of the vitality of church life once lost was



Holy Family Catholic Church, Radville. Constructed in 1950 under Father E. A. Yandeau, Parish Priest.

regained. A new interest was taken in the Brooking School District for church attendance and organization.

The Reverend J. L. G. Brown followed in 1954 and further improvements were made for the welfare of the church and manse. A great deal was done in the Sanctuary of the Church: a new pulpit, communion table, baptismal font and cross. A new ceiling as well as many other smaller items were also added. The kitchen of the church and manse were outfitted with modern conveniences. A Memorial Organ was placed in the church, in memory of Roy McIlrath, by his wife and family; and a piano was placed in the basement.

In 1957, the Reverend A. B. Fennell became the minister. The congregation undertook to raise a sum in excess of \$2000 for the St. Andrews College Extension Fund. Further renovations were made to the church with a new roof, and the painting of the exterior; new chairs and tables in the basement. Several church organizations co-operated to install water works for kitchen and bathroom use; Memorial Electronic Chimes were installed in the church tower. In 1959-60, the first plans were made for a Christian Education Extension of the church; a building fund was established and an architect employed.

Several organizations deserve notice, having contributed to the church work. The Board, which has operated since the days of the Methodist Church has been distinguished by the services of many people: H. R. Picketts, W. A. McIlrath, Roy McIlrath, G.

Cryderman, O. D. Stitt, F. A. Cousins, Maurice McIlrath, and Allan Roth.

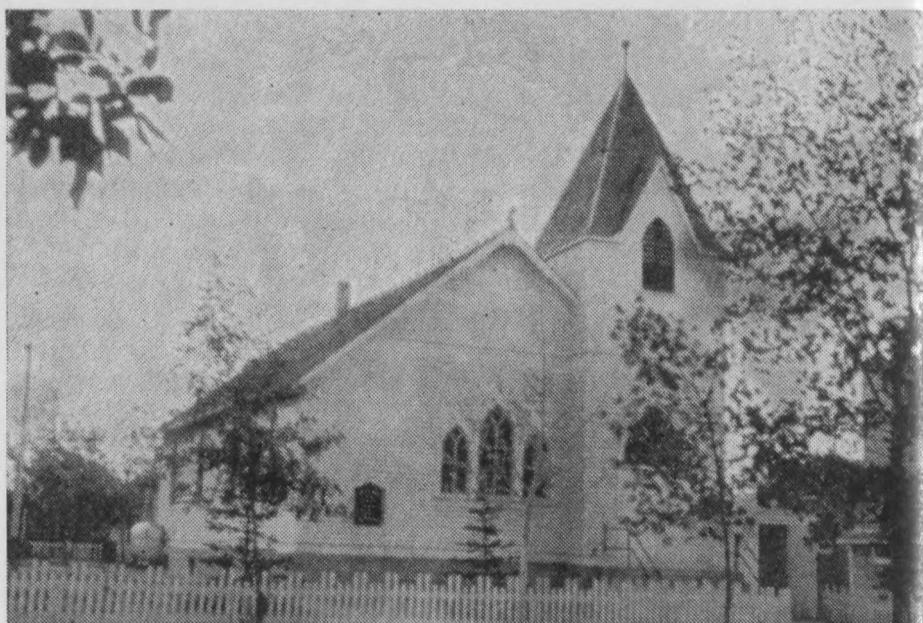
Numerous organists have given faithful service: Miss Wallin, Mrs. Laking and Mrs. Belle Cousins, both for many years, (Mrs. Cousins was also leader of the Junior Choir). Bill Stitt and Don Evans also served as organists in their time. In more recent years, since the appearance of the Hammond organ, the organists have been F. A. Cousins, Miss Ruth Anderson, (Now Mrs. S. Sutherland) and A. E. McAuley, organist and choir leader.

The present afternoon W A. is the successor to the Senior W. A., the Ladies Aid, (1914) and the Sunshine Club (1911). The Evening W. A. was formed in 1951 to provide a group for young married women of the church. The services of contribution of these two groups has been invaluable, often giving substance and vitality to the church when it tended to falter. The Women's Missionary Society has been for many years an important study in the church. For a short time a men's club existed called the "As One That Serves". The Sunday School has been from the first an important avenue of church work. These have been some of the superintendents: Mrs. Wilkinson, Irvine Stauffer, Dr. Ed. Gillespie, Roy McIlrath, Maurice McIlrath, Floyd Cousins and Chester Teal. The loyal services of many teachers would make a very long record indeed.

The story of the Anglican Church and congregation is some-



Summer Bible School of the Church of Christ when first organized in Radville.



The Radville United Church as it stands today. Basement added and general renovation made during the ministry of Rev. C. R. McMurtry.

what similar. The first services were held above Eby's store, and after the school was built in 1912 the congregation met in the school. In 1913 the present building or part of it was moved here from Souris Valley. We are unable to tell you the name of the first minister but shortly after the church was moved into town the charge was taken over by Rev. Isaac Lackey. This fine gentleman was highly respected by all who knew him. His son Harold was our first school principal and lost his life during the first world war. Another son Jim became a druggist in the City of Estevan. Reverend Lackey was responsible for the fine interior decorating done in the Anglican Church. Later the building received an addition and a bell was also installed.

Many are the ministers and priests who have served the church here. Some of them are Reverends Cardwell, Joy, Hill, Leadbeater, Yates. At the present time services are conducted every two weeks by the Reverend F. Badham.

Some of the organists over the years have been Mrs. Alf Johns, Miss Copeland, Mrs. Edgar Reid, Mrs. B. Weir, Miss Betty Hazel.

The next church in chronological order is the Full Gospel Mission. This church group began in the summer of 1916 with the ministry of Reverend Walter McAlister who was accompanied by Sisters Peden and Andrews, evangelists. In the summer of 1917 Rev. Butler arrived from Winnipeg and he conducted services in the Province Theatre and many people joined the church at this time.

In the summer of 1918 Rev. Jack Mitchell of Portland, Oregon, was appointed as first Pastor of the established congregation and worship services were held above the theatre in the lodge rooms.

Early in the year 1926 Rev. James Church rented the present building, then called the Young Fellows' Club and under his ministry the assembly was incorporated under the Religious Societies Acts in 1927. The first Board of Deacons were David Bradley, A. T. Frymire, Mr. F. Safford, Mr. E. Church, Mr. H. C. Bean and at this time the present property was purchased and remodeled.

Rev. A. H. Gillett was appointed to the pastorate in 1928 and in 1930 the society was registered in the Office of Vital Statistics, Legislative Buildings, Regina, Sask., and thus received full religious privileges in the province under the name of Full Gospel Missions of Saskatchewan.

In 1926 the Church of Christ held its first meetings in Radville, when Evangelist H. A. Rogers held a five weeks' meeting beginning on March first. This meeting was held in Mr. Korf's hall and about 140 visitors attended each night. In 1929 the Church built its present meeting house with Mr. Cassidy, Mr. Wilfrid Orr and others as carpenters. Rev. Shaffer was the first resident minister.

The ministers who have served this congregation have been Mr. J. C. Bailey, Mr. Wilfred Orr, Mr. Paul Tromberg and others. Mr. H. E. Peterson is the secretary.

Such is the story of our Radville Churches as contributed by the various congregations

# *Education*

---

## CHAPTER VI

A set o'dull, conceited hashes  
Confuse their brains in college classes;  
They gang in stirks and come out asses,  
Plain truth to speak;  
And syne they thinks to climb Parnassus,  
By dint o' Greek.

—Robert Burns

Here Burns jokingly makes fun of education. It is fortunate indeed that our pioneers refused to agree with him on one of life's most important human activities, the gaining of knowledge. They did not believe that in educational institutions, students gang "young steers" and come out asses. A country that claims to be truly democratic must have an educational system designed to provide the maximum opportunity for its children and citizens. This is the sort of philosophy that inspired our pioneers to plan for the education of their youngsters. No sooner were the farmers settled or the town begun than school districts were formed wherever the number of boys and girls justified the employing of a teacher. Farmers grouped together and erected buildings which became community centres. It is impossible in a short account to name these schools or their officials, but we do wish to pay a tribute to the many fore-sighted men and women who, by their sacrifice, were responsible in these early days for the birth and nurture of our democratic educational system.

The very first educational institution in Radville was a single small room above Vernon's (soon to be Eby's) store on main street. It was reached by a wooden stairway and possessed two windows facing the railway station. This school was under the guidance of an energetic lady named Miss Siljenberg who taught nearly all public school classes. Some students in their teens began school for the first time.

As people moved in the rate of increase in the number of students rose so quickly that it was soon evident that the one room could not accommodate them. A school was then begun in the fall of 1911, built of brick, and constructed by contractor G. Janowsky who lived where Alof Anderson lives today. Before the school could be occupied another room had to be opened with Mrs. Sawdy, the barber's wife in charge.

In 1912, the brick school was nearly completed so that in January, 1913, it was officially opened to students of the town as the Radville S.D. No. 254. Harold Lackey was the principal up to the time—latter part of 1912 until the summer of 1913. The very first students starting in Grade I in the new four room brick school were

Leo Ayotte, Aime Ayotte (Pete), Lucien Ayotte, Elsie Brooks, Louis Cryderman, Violetta Armstrong, Myrtle Disher, Lillian Disher, Aline Dumouchel, Antonio Dumouchel, Leo Dupas, Blanche Dupas, Justine Hoffman, Eva Labossiere, Elodie Labossiere, Albert Loiselle, Blanche Loiselle, Gladys Larson, Hazel Spellman, Edith Wagstaff, Wilfred Smith, Jacob Probe, Marcel Verot, Jenny Verot, Mary Verot, Nellie Benoit, Clarence Mitchell, Louis Verot, Leonard Larsen. Others added before June 1913 were Eric Allen, Willie Benoit, Orphir Bellavance, George Bellavance, Ernest Bellavance, Alfred Colbourn, Ted Colbourn, Harry Wagstaff, Ethel Janowsky, Ethel Morris, Edna Morris, Cyril Morris, Euclid Odette, Cecile Provost, Flora Middleton, Donald Reetz, Gertrude Sudcliffe and Ned Sudcliffe.

In 1913 the first teachers in the new school were Dora Ostrander, Ethel Bell, and Thomas Traynor, principal in the highest grade were two students, John Probe and Jessamine Hober. In 1914, E. W. Hinkson, who later became a lawyer in Regina, was hired as principal and in October of that year two of the students registered in Grade II and IV were Velma and Floyd Cousins. The first school board consisted of McGraw Wilkinson, chairman, U. J. G. Schurman, Mrs. Henry Clark, and Eugene Bellavance, with A. A. K. Johns as secretary. The school superintendents at this time were J. G. McKechnie and A. Kennedy. W. S. Groomes appeared as superintendent in 1918 and John Marshall in 1925. Mr. Hinkson left this note in his register in February, 1916 "School closed from January 30 to February 21 on account of shortage of coal. C. N. R. blocked by blizzard, worst winter in the history of the race. Thermometer reached 52 degrees below zero on January 12."

In 1916, W. A. Beatty became principal, but his place was taken for a short time by Rev. W. R. Morrison, while Mr. Beatty attended Queen's University. John Eby became a board member and T. E. Cousins the secretary in 1918. John Lucas served as board member in 1919, and Harry Gamble in 1920. About 1922, Miss J. Craig became principal when Mr. Beatty went to Swift Current collegiate following his graduation. In 1923 Arnold Brammer became secretary-treasurer following David Bradley who gave two years' service. In 1925 E. B. McKay became principal and held the position for 16 years until he joined the air force in 1941, at which time F. A. Cousins became principal and has continued as such to the present time.

Men who have served on the school board over the years besides those mentioned above include Angus Hillman, Tom Speedie, Frank Hurlburt, Olaf Anderson, John Morley, Jack McLaughlin, John Stockton, Ted Hargreaves, Joe Shibley, H. N. Lukes, O. D. Stitt, Dr. G. L. Crane, Andy Lovatt, W. N. Roth, Glen Levee, R. A. Evans, Carl Larsen, Sr., William Gray, George Clark, Jack Williamson, Vic Watson, Hussen Shibley, E. H. Dienst, Harold Hurlburt, A. L. Karras, and Dr. R. Sollars. The following is an interesting record—Mr. Glen Levee first assumed office on the school board in 1942 and for eighteen years continued in this administrative capacity, most of the time



Radville Public an  
High School. Built as he  
four room school in 1912. Added to in the  
early 20's. Now contains  
Chemistry and Home  
Economics Labs., Auditorium, Shop Room  
Commercial room and  
seven class rooms.

as the chairman. He also served on the Unit Board after its establishment. A service of this nature can never be acknowledged adequately.

Superintendents since 1936 were J. P. Miller, Gunner Fraser, F. R. Bolton, Dr. E. D. Gillespie, J. E. Baikie and C. L. Teal.

The Radville Public School joined the Larger Unit of Administration, School Unit No. 3, in 1948. To provide students with a wider choice of subjects, the Board first opened a commercial room and purchased sixteen typewriters. Later a fully equipped shop room was added with Ellis Krogsgaard as the first instructor of the course. Here woodwork and furniture are produced by the students. A well supplied Home Economics Laboratory for sewing and cooking was added at the same time. The school also has a fully-equipped chemistry and physics laboratory, an auditorium, containing a motion picture projector. Other equipment includes a film-strip projector, music reproducers, radios, pianos and in sort, all materials and apparatus necessary for effective instruction..

The larger school unit system brought many changes for the good. Men from many widely-separated districts came together to legislate for the good of all. With a broader view, equal educational opportunities for our boys and girls became the objective of Unit Boards since the formation. Secretary-treasurers, trained for the job became efficient managers and worked in constant association with the superintendents and principals of the schools. Tom McGrath has had long service as chairman of the Board and deserves the plaudits of the rate payers and teachers alike. Unit secretaries have included Jack Williamson, Ross Barker, Alex Anderson and Eugene Groshong. Miss Shirley Roth has also served as efficient assistant for several years.

Our town boasts of not one but two educational institutions. Shortly after the formation of the Radville Public School, a group of Sisters of St. Louis arrived to give their dedicated devotion and service in the guiding of young minds.

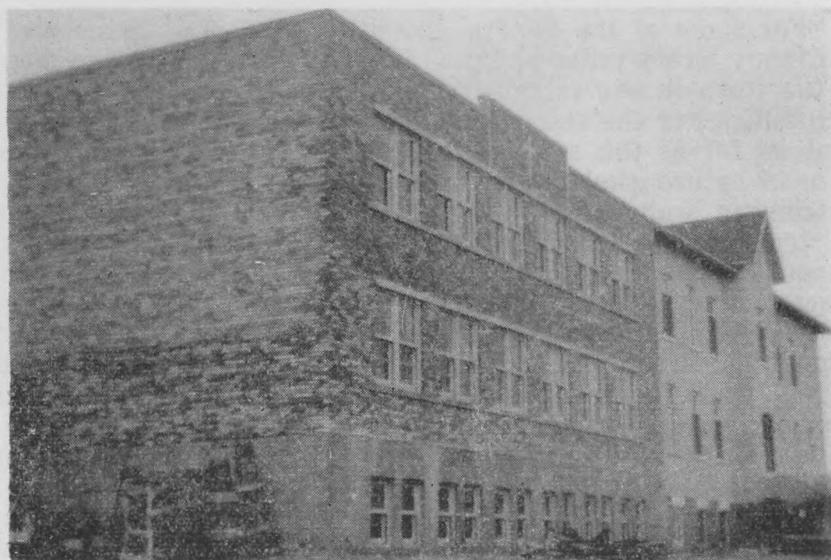
For some of the Sisters, the little town of Radville was the end of many weary miles of travelling. The scenery, as they approached the town in the fall of 1914, was a far cry from the quaint French villages or the scenic beauty of distant Quebec. All that was evident as far as the eye could see was "the least common denominator of nature, skeleton requirements, simply of land and sky — Saskatchewan prairie "or field". At the request of Father Gendron, the Sisters of St. Louis were coming to inspect the centre where it was urged they establish a boarding and day school. The site proved satisfactory and in the spring of 1915 when the last shrunken snowbank had melted and the ground softened, construction began. The basement and second floor of the present edifice were erected at that time. On September first, that same year, "Academie St. Louis", private school for resident and day scholars opened its doors to the Catholic children of the district. The pioneers of this establishment were: Mother St. Thuriau, Superior; Sister St. Septimie, French and Music; Sister Felix Marie and Sister Mary Victor, classroom teachers; Sister Marie du Rosaire, cook. Since the school was private, salaries did not enter the picture—the only sources of revenue were the fees of the resident students (\$12.00 a month) and music lessons. The boarders and day scholars soon became too numerous for accommodation and necessitated the erection of the third floor in 1918. This allowed for a large chapel and ample dormitory space.

Negotiations for making St. Louis Academy a Separate School were carried on with the Department of Education in Regina for several months and finally in 1922 St. Olivier R.C.S. No. 12 was established. The following served as the first Board of Trustees: Beather Kugener, Chairman; Mrs. J. Saindon, Sec.-Treas.; Mr. Allan, Mr. Donat Dionne, Mr. Eugene Bellavance, Mr. J. Cowden.

The children of Rheims and later of Liberator School Districts were transported to the school now commonly called St. Oliver's, vans and as a result a fourth classroom was put into operation that same year. Until 1929 no instruction beyond Grade X was given, however, in that year Grade XI was added. Classrooms began "burst at the seams" and a fifth room was opened in 1930.

Need we elaborate on the "thirties" and the result to the schools? Salaries were of necessity cut—then even that didn't suffice and they dwindled to "notes." This was paralleled by the fees of the Boarders. As debts mounted and revenues diminished the Board was compelled to put one classroom out of operation, reverting back to four.

With the passing of years came better economic conditions until in 1943 a fifth classroom was opened again. In the meantime the children from Farville S.D. had also been transferred to St. Oliver's. 1945 saw six classrooms functioning. This was also the year that produced the first Graduates—they were: Rachel Fournier, Marie Bourassa and Alice Loiselle. By 1948 the number of classrooms rose to eight and the original building could no longer



St. Oliver's Separate School. First built as a convent in 1915. Add to in 1949. It has twelve classrooms, Library, Lab. and Commercial room.

accommodate both resident and day students. A new two-storey wing was added — it contained eight large classrooms and two "playrooms." The new wing was ready for occupation in December of 1949. In 1953 there were twelve classrooms plus a typing room, library and laboratory. At about this time many of the small country schools were being closed and the children were transported to the town schools by buses. As a result the enrolment soared approximately 300; then, partly because accommodations were lacking and partly because it was no longer necessary, St. Louis Academy ceased to function as a boarding and day school and became the latter only. A sharp contrast to the humble beginnings in 1915 of St. Oliver's of 1960. Numerous teaching aids are now available for the more efficient teaching, i.e., slide and film projectors, duplicating machine, radio and record players, etc. The curriculum has expanded to allow for Sports, Drama and Editorial activities. St. Oliver's has every reason to look forward to a still greater expansion and an ever brighter future.

The above schools work harmoniously together and both have active Home and School organizations which often co-ordinate their activities. (Let's say nothing about the beard-growing contest.)

The last school for Radville was begun as a Bible school by the Church of Christ. This private school, built by the contributions of the numerous adherents of the church, was erected in a scenic area on the east bank of Long Creek facing the town and was called the Radville Christian College.

At first the attendance was very small but due to the quality of personality and devotion of the teachers, the number of students

gradually increased until a full High School Course was offered. Mr. J. C. Bailey was the first principal of the Bible School and School. It was later found necessary to have a principal for each of the Academic and Bible Schools, Miss Lillian Torkelson becoming principal of the former. When attendance continued to rise, thereby increasing the responsibility of the principal's position, Cecil Bailey assumed the heavier duties of the latter.

In a short time the officials of the school believed that the field of services could be expanded by moving the College to the more populous centre of Weyburn. Here former air force buildings were purchased and the College re-established under the name of Western Christian College. In this locale the College continues to grow and prosper.

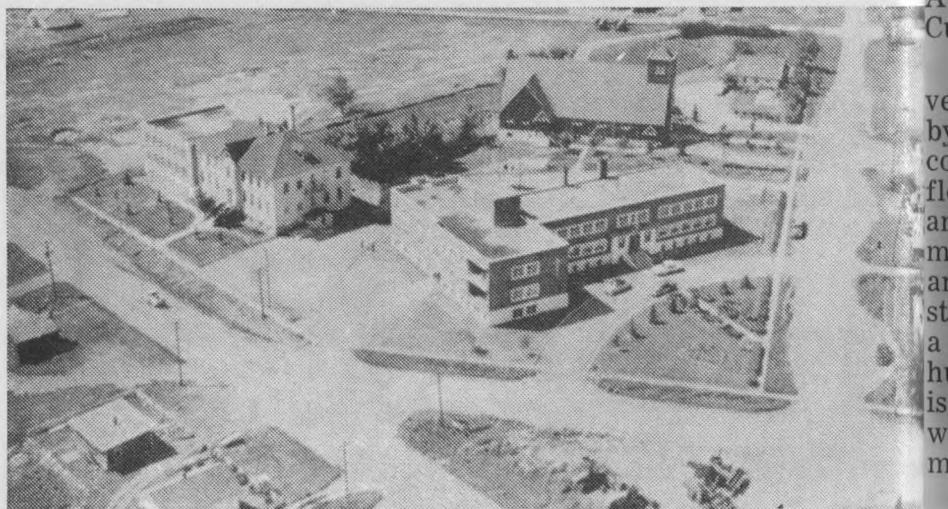
Many are the students who have graduated from the above three institutions of learning and have continued their education in University halls, winning degrees in medicine, law, arts, pharmacy, agriculture, etc. Many are the students who have assumed important positions in business and industry and are continuing in the paths of their pioneer parents, accepting responsibilities in community endeavours, establishing homes, assisting in building a better province, a better nation.

# Care of the Sick

## CHAPTER VII

From time immemorial, even before the birth, some 23 years ago, of Hippocrates, the "Father of Medicine", hosts of voted men and women have felt it incumbent upon themselves to desert their homes and menial tasks to answer the urgent request for assistance from their fellow-man, who may be lying on a bed of sickness. So it was in the early days in Radville. However, doctors were obliged to be resident of some city or town in order to be of greatest service to the surrounding area. Rural regions therefore frequently found themselves at a considerable distance from expert medical service. Before Radville appeared, as a village, the early pioneers had to care for their sick and birth their babies without the benefit of experienced doctors, (hence,) each community had its quota of mid-wives and those who were acquainted with remedies for common sicknesses. Among this group in the region were Grandma Carlson (Louis' mother), Mrs. Mary Dietrich (Anna May's and Len's Mother), Mrs. Blair Kimball, Mrs. Beckwith, Mrs. Hennesson, (Eddie's mother), Mrs. Ainsworth, Miss May Wheeler, Mrs. Willis, Mrs. Dumouchel and Mrs. Arthur Sykes.

In 1911, Radville was stricken with a very serious epidemic of typhoid fever, and out of 80 reported cases there were seven deaths. Mr. John Carlson's restaurant was closed and converted into an emergency hospital, manned by Drs. D. A. McKay and O'Shea, together with a small enlisted nursing staff.



Central foreground—Hospital and Marian Home, Holy Family Catholic Church in central background. The Convent faces No. 28 highway

Again in 1918 the 'flu epidemic brought out the hero in our medical doctors and nurses. Long hours under trying conditions were spent on the road, behind a pair of good drivers, or in summer, in the front seat of a Model T, trying between visits to catch a few winks of much needed rest. Our appreciation is herein expressed for such outstanding humanitarianism as displayed by Drs. D. A. McKay and Archie MacDonald, nurses Anne Cowden (Smith), Kay Cowden, Scrivener, Shaw, Cardwell and others "who spared not themselves in the service of their fellowman." Numerous are the cases when such untrained nurses as Anne and the others gave medical service when doctors could not be present and many adults are alive to-day because of their courage and devotion.

Severe cases requiring surgery were transported to Weyburn by a circuitous route across the burnouts. Other doctors who served Radville before the coming of the hospital were Drs. McBain, G. L. Crane, Sestrap, Pennington, McGillivray and Beaudoine.

In 1946 the nursing community of Sisters of St. Joseph after much effective persuasion on the part of Rev. Father E. A. Yandeau and the Hospital Committee composed of members from nearly every organization in town, arrived to open a small hospital of seven beds in the rectory which Father Yandeau had obligingly vacated for them. Here these devoted Sisters under the leadership of Sister Ste. Anne, laboured in crowded quarters while the present hospital was under construction. The Radville and District Community Hospital, a fully modern, well-equipped institution of twenty-five beds and eleven bassinets was officially opened on October 6, 1948 by the Honorable L. F. McIntosh, Minister of Municipal Affairs. The first Superior was Sister Kathleen and the first doctors were Dr. R. Belcourt and Dr. S. Weatherhead. In 1947 the first Hospital Auxiliary was formed with Mrs. E. B. McKay as president, Mrs. Curt Randles, Vice-President, and Mrs. A. Roy, Secretary-treasurer.

To care for the senior citizens of our community the reverend Sisters built the Marian Home, which was officially opened by Premier T. C. Douglas on April 18, 1956. It was erected in conjunction with the Hospital and possesses three floors. The top floor is for lady guests. The second floor opens into the hospital and is reserved for bed-ridden patients, while the lower floor is for men guests. Cooking is done in the Hospital kitchen and meals are served in a beautiful dining room in the Home. This double structure, Hospital and Home, stands to-day as a credit to our town, a fitting monument to the wisdom, foresight and dedication to humanity by a group of ladies whose efficiency as Nursing Sisters is widely acclaimed in the whole of Southern Saskatchewan. May we express our sincere thanks for the fine contribution they have made and continue to make in the care of the sick.

A hospital of this nature has been able to attract doctors and surgeons of outstanding qualifications and ability. After Drs. Belcourt and Wood left, their places were taken by our present medical staff, Dr. R. Sollars and Dr. I. Scott.

# *Historical Events in the Community*

---

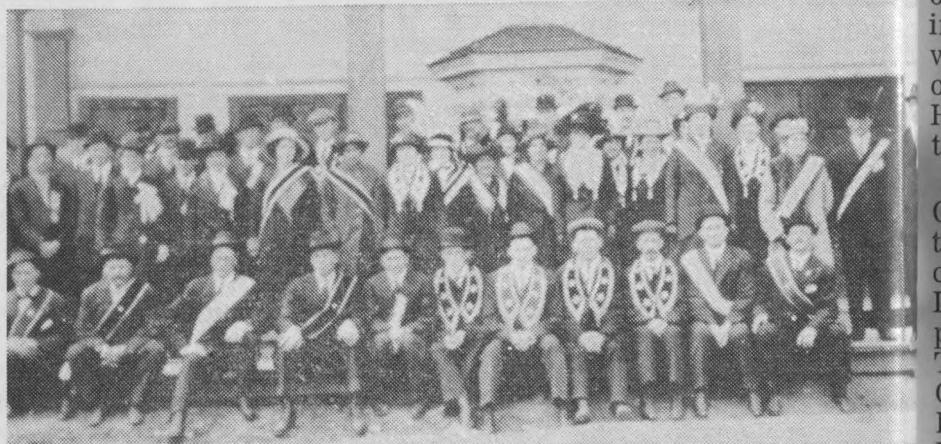
## CHAPTER VIII

A growing community is seldom satisfied to maintain the status quo. Groups will form for the purpose of changing or improving its surroundings. In this chapter we hope to relate to you the accomplishments, not of individuals, but of groups of our citizens working together and how their activities have resulted in a better community.

One of the earliest events was the opening of the new school in January, 1913. We have no story of the opening ceremony which occurred, no doubt, in the last month of 1912. It is likely that Mr. Gray Wilkinson was in charge of the ceremony. (Do you know? Nor have we the record of the ceremony for the opening of the boarding school of the Sisters of St. Louis.

In 1914, the first Boy Scout Troup was formed in Radville with W. J. Cassidy as Scout Leader. His position was later assumed by Alf. Morley. The Grain Growers' Association appeared in the year also.

In 1916, a group of car owners, (Model T, Chev. 490, A cooled Franklin) met and formed the Radville Automobile Association. The president of this organization was H. R. Pickett.



An I.O.O.F. Parade in 1912 before the Rebekah Lodge was organized here. Can you find the following persons: Jack MacKenzie, Clarence Skeet, Frank Bowler, Ed. Dienst, Ed. Reetz, Jim Dawson. The Lodge Room is up over this Province Theatre. Look at those hats, Ladies! What will another fifty years bring?

C. G. T. Reetz as vice-president. David Bradley was secretary while Bob Peters and Joe Saindon made up the executive. The other members were the car owners Gust Broman, John A. Carlson, Lou (Hook) Campbell, C. B. Bergerson, Emil Forsen, Paul Labossiere, W. A. McIlrath, George S. Thompson, U. J. G. Schurman, Johnnie Williamson, McGray Wilkinson, and Dr. D. A. McKay. Fees were \$1.50 and in 1918, there was a credit balance of \$19.50. No charter or constitution was adopted, and the sole purpose was to exchange views on automobiles and to promote better driving conditions—promotion of better roads.

In the same year the Radville Branch of the Red Cross was organized with Mrs. Wilkinson taking charge of the Junior section as well. Did we grow potatoes, boy o' boy! The Radville Lawn Tennis Club made its first appearance on this year. A gun club was also in action with Herb Reetz as president, C. Wright, the jeweler, field captain and Clarence Koch, Secretary-treasurer. The shooting field was across the track and clay pigeons were machine-tossed into the air for the marksmen to shoot-or-miss.

It would appear that the Board of Trade was first organized in Radville in 1917 because in the next year the Radville Automobile Association ceased to be and the members of that group joined the Board of Trade. This group is still active and doing good work for the town. Its president now is Hussen Shibley.

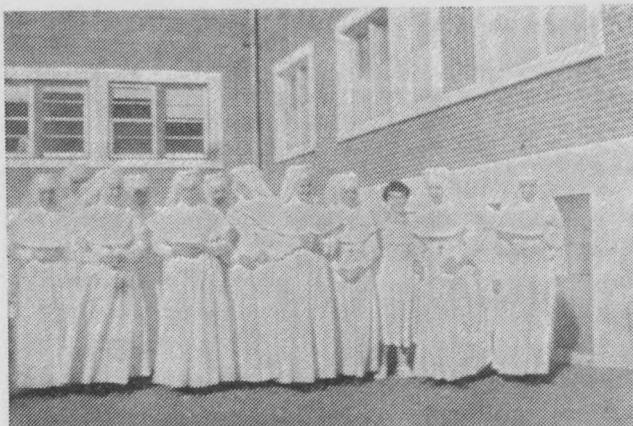
In 1918 the Returned Soldiers' Welcome League was organized which received and entertained the boys on their arrival from France.

1921 was the year that the Young Fellows' Club appeared. A group of Weyburn members came to Radville to assist in the organization. This group seemed to be one of the most successful in maintaining membership. It held its luncheon meetings once a week in what is now the Gospel Mission. Among the achievements of this society was the initiation of the building of the Memorial Hall. We cannot locate the books of this association but we believe that Murray Skelton was the first president.

In 1925, one of Radville's finest societies came into being. On June 22 the first meeting of the Radville Agricultural Association was held in the Young Fellows' Club Rooms. Interested people came from Gladmar, Pepper, Khedive, Neptune, Maxim, Ceylon, Lake Alma, Blooming and Trossachs. H. R. Picketts was the first president with R. G. Williams and J. T. Edwards as vice-presidents. The secretary was Rev. D. P. Morris with J. A. Saindon as treasurer. On the Board of Directors were the farmers; J. E. Black, Jim McDermid, F. J. Stewart, F. Fradette, Miles Beckett, Oscar DeRoose, Ray Toovey and P. C. Peterson, while directors from town were McGray Wilkinson, W. A. McIlrath, Emile Bourassa, Mrs. Wilkinson,

#### DO YOU REMEMBER . . .

Do you remember the lovely skating exhibitions displayed by Kenny Englestad and Phyllis Kushnir? (Now Mrs. Kenny Englestad).



Nursing sisters in  
front of the Maria  
Home and Hospital  
They're a happy lot.

Mrs. W. H. Shierholtz and Mrs. T. E. Cousins. By November 1925 membership had increased to 202. This group organized three-day fairs, banquet, dances, baseball, football, stampedes, livestock shows, poultry and farm produce displays, baby competitions, etc.

In 1926, R. G. Williams became president and such items as standing crop competitions, farm gardens' competition, bucking broncho contests and farm boys' camps were held or encouraged. In the fall elections of 1927, Harry Anderson became president and Mrs. Anderson's name was added to the program committee. Loren Fox and P. B. Calladine were elected vice-presidents with C. B. Bergerson as secretary-treasurer. About \$1400 was allotted as awards for exhibits in the fall show. In 1929, the fair days were August 15, 16, 17. Conklin and Garrett Shows were in attendance. The society purchased the grounds just west of the fair grounds for some \$700. Total receipts for 1929 were \$3471.03.

Apparently the society, owing to adverse climatical conditions, ceased operations in the 30's but was again organized in 1950 with W. J. Ferguson as president, T. Dawson, vice-president, A. C. Anderson, Secretary, and F. Ferguson, treasurer. The executive was composed of W. J. Barrett, Carl Larsen Sr. and A. Appelquist. The association is not functioning at the present time. Too bad.

Morley Crowle is our present Agricultural Representative.

Another historical event was the completion of Highway No. 18 through Radville in 1928. We do not recall when it was first gravelled.

In the same year on May 13, the excavation for the Memorial Hall began. Bill Mellafont was the contractor. It was dedicated in a special service held on November 18, 1928. Those taking part were

#### DO YOU REMEMBER . . .

Do you remember Mr. Royal's skating pupils and the Ice Carnival we had when he taught in Radville? Do you recall Lillian Larsen's solo work on the ice?

Hon. C. M. Hamilton, M.L.A., Premier W. J. Patterson, E J. Young, M.P., Fr. J. A. Morrisette, Rev. D. P. Morris, Rev. H. J. Kinley, Rev. W. S. Yates, W. J. Oliver, Mrs. O. H. Bertrand, Ben Austin, Thos. Topping.

In 1929 the Radville skating and curling rink was erected and officially opened by special ceremonies.

On April 16, 1943, the first organization meeting of the Radville Community Savings and Credit Union was held and this society has progressed very favorably since that time. (See the inserted advertisement)

October 6, 1948 marked another historic event, the ceremony of the dedication of the Hospital. Speakers on the Hospital Grounds included Hon. L. F. McIntosh, Minister of Municipal Affairs, E. B. McKay, M. P. for Weyburn Constituency and The Most Reverend M. C. O'Neill, Archbishop of Regina, the dicator. The hospital was then visited by the public and tea was served by the ladies of the Hospital Auxiliary. At 5:30, a dinner was enjoyed at the Empire Hotel where the speakers were G. W. Myers and J. J. Smith. A dance in the Memorial Hall concluded the festivities.

October 4, 1950 marked the dedication of the newly constructed Holy Family Catholic Church. At 10 a.m. Most Reverend M. C. O'Neill, Archbishop of Regina blessed the corner stone of the building. Solemn High Mass was celebrated by our own Fr. E. A. Yandeau, assisted by Fr. Schactel and Fr. Godin, the former as Deacon of the Mass. The sermon was preached by His Grace M. C. O'Neill. Other priests in attendance were Monsieur Hughes, Fr. Gerein, Fr. McKenna, Fr. Volk, Fr. Harty, Fr. Lambertus, Fr. Dobbelen, Fr. McLellan, Fr. Langlais, Fr. Reidy, Fr. Daley, Fr. Albers and Fr. Keohan.

Again on April 18, 1956, the historic event of the dedication of the Marian Home took place as a living memorial to serve our pioneers. A banquet was held in the dining room of the Holy Family Church at 5:30 p.m. Eldon Kimball was chairman. Addresses were delivered by Mr. A. C. McLean, the provincial supervisor of the Credit Union, Hon. J. H. Sturdy, Minister of Public Welfare, Hon. T. C. Douglas, premier of Saskatchewan, the Most Reverend M. C. O'Neill, Archbishop of Regina, and Rev. Fr. E. A. Yandeau, chairman of the Advisory Board of the Hospital.

In 1958 the Boy Scouts were re-organized under the able leadership of Rev. A. B. Fennell, scoutmaster and assisted by Bobby Oshanek and Roy Conn.

In 1958 we saw the organization of The Kiwanis Club of Radville, whose motto "We Build" has been well followed in our town. In just a short time this group has done much to improve our town and to emphasize the responsibilities of citizenship. Its

---

#### DO YOU REMEMBER . . .

Oscar Underbakke's wonderful feeds of bear and moose meat. That bear was tougher as steak than he ever was in life.

first officers were Bill Robertson, President, Bill Winchell, Secretary-Treasurer and Bulletin Editor. Its present officers are Al. Roth, President, Bill Winchell, Secretary-Treasurer, and Armand Bourassa, Bulletin Editor. The club's achievements for 1960 include the naming of the streets and avenues of Radville.

Another item of historical interest is the organization of the oldest lodge in Radville. It was formed on the fifth day of June, 1912 and was known as the Independent Order of Oddfellows, Amity Lodge No. 86. Its charter members included the following officers, Ed. Reetz, Charlie Hill, Frank W. Smith, John William Marshall, Harold E. Mitchell and E. J. Hober. In addition to the above there have been many Noble Grands in the persons of Tom Heatherington, Jim Dawson, Frank Bowler, Gust Broman, Clarence Koch, Jack White, McGray Wilkinson, Arthur Sykes, E. H. Dienst, Arnold Brammer, J. Temple, Len Elliott, E. H. Walker, George Herbert, Bill Ramsay, Neil Leabo, Les Haden, Dave Erickson, W. T. Ganong, Clarence Wells, R. B. Vanatter, Dr. O. H. Bertrand, Jack MacKenzie, James Comstock, Jim Lackey, Harry Watson, Lawrence Haden, Orin Rosengren, Glen Levee, Alvin Hurlburt, Carol Levee, Elwood Vennard, Everett Josephson, Ben Austin, Art Karras, Bill Robertson, Harold McNaught, Johnnie Denys, Wayne Hurlburt, Maurice McIlrath, Archie Howden, and the present Noble Grand is Eldon Leflar. Harry E. Koch was an Oddfellow before he came to Radville and was a past District Deputy and Degree Master.

The second Lodge was organized by the ladies and called Queen Sheba Rebekah Lodge No. 32. Its charter was granted on March 4, 1914, the charter names being: Mr. H. J. Lackey, Mrs. Tabitha Reetz, Mrs. Nellie Whyte, Mrs. M. J. Heatherington, Tom Heatherington, Charlie Hill, Mrs. V. J. Hober, Edward Reetz, Howard Saunders, Mary Saunders, Jim Whyte.

The first Noble Grand was Mrs. Nellie Whyte, vice-grand, Mrs. M. J. Heatherington; Secretary, Miss E. Bell; Financial Secretary, Mrs. Tabitha Reetz; Treasurer, Mrs. Charlie Hill. Noble Grands since that time are; Tena McKay, N. S. Hober, Tabitha Reetz, Mrs. Clarence Skeels, Mrs. Josie Miller, Mabelle Dienst, Nellie Wilkinson, Alma Davis (Kading), Sarah Hanneson, Isabelle Koch, Addie Peters, Dorothy Saunders, Mabel Haden, Edna Peterson, Mrs. Tom Speedie, Vi Elliott, E. Gaudion, Grace Schierholtz, Lizzie Sykes, Florence Laking, Linda Broman, Hettie Watson, Minnie Koch, Lucy Brown, Gladys Sykes, Frances Prowse, Agnes Redman, Amy Sykes, Margaret Reid, Evelyn Brine, Edna Cassidy, Doris Brogden, Thelma Watson, Ella Levee, Ethel Erickson, Elva Seavy, Julia Dietrich, Isabel Cousins, Agnes Evans, Frances Parsons, Edna Roth, Irene Howden, Lillian Hurlburt, Ida Harmer, Velva Hurlburt, Dorothy Howden, Grace Grosenick, Margaret Evans, Edith Anderson, Lilian Ferguson,

We wish we had kept a record of the many suggestions for the dedication of the sewer system of our town. Those involving Mayor Smigarowski were particularly utilitarian in nature. It's a good thing Metro was good-natured.



A small park at the corner of Main and Third.

Beatrice Aspen, Effie Karras, Esther Brodie, Mary Van Alstine and Vi Ferris.

At one time a member of Radville Lodge was the President of the Rebekah Assembly of Saskatchewan, and that member was Mrs. Nellie Wilkinson, the only member who attained this high honor.

On June 21, 1923, a charter was issued to the Radville Lodge No. 175, A.F. and A. M., signed by W. B. Tate, Grand Secretary. Its charter members have been listed elsewhere in this booklet. In the early years this Lodge held its meetings in a rented hall above what is now the Red and White Store. In 1947 the Lodge Hall was needed for commercial purposes and the occupying Lodges were requested to vacate. Joint meetings of Oddfellows and Masons were held and a decision made to build a new Lodge Hall. Work was started in August and the members held their first meeting in the basement in November of that year. Here we wish to honor the brethren of both Lodges for their voluntary labour, but in particular we express our thanks and appreciation for the untiring efforts of Jack Haddon on behalf of the Masons and Orin Rosengren for the Oddfellows. The Hall may not have started, say nothing about being completed, had it not been for the persistence

---

DO YOU REMEMBER . . .

When the Masons entertained Father Murray's Notre Dame hockey team, and what a fine address Father Murray made after the supper. He said how he as a Catholic Priest had always wanted to make a speech in a Masonic Hall.

and drive of these two men. No doubt it was learned in the R.C.M.P. Meetings continued to be held in the basement until June 1948 when the upper part was completed, thanks to the generous donation of Harry E. Koch who was an active member of both lodges.

The following have served as Masters of the Lodge each for one year only; **H. R. Picketts**, A. T. Speedie, **M. L. M. Skelton**, **Neil Leabo**, A. A. K. Johns, **E. B. Patterson**, J. D. Saunders, U. J. G. Schurman, E Graham, **W. A. McIlrath**, **M. G. Wilkinson**, H. N. Lukes, E. T. Hargreaves, O. D. Stitt, E. B. McKay, **H. Watson**, **A. Lovatt**, F. T. Dixon, **G. L. Crane**, J. Williamson, F. A. Cousins, **H. E. Koch**, M. M. Seede, A. R. Robertson, A. J. Haddon, H. Shibley, **R. A. Evans**, G. L. Levee, B. Shibley, **W. R. Gray**, A. F. Hurlburt, C. Levee, N. E. Williams, F. G. Ferguson, W. F. Robertson, J. A. Howden, Earl Brown. Those shown in **bold face** are deceased.

The fourth Lodge to be formed was the Radville Chapter No. 78, Order of the Eastern Star, a counterpart of the Masonic Lodge. This Lodge was instituted on April 3, 1928 with 30 charter members. The first Worthy Matron was Mrs. Edna Patterson while A. T. Speedie was the first Worthy Patron. Mrs. Ivy Hargreaves and Mrs. Helen Underbakke were installed as Secretary and Treasurer respectively.

Meetings were first held in the Masonic Hall over Schurman's Hardware but in later years the facilities of the new lodge hall were enjoyed until the charter was surrendered in 1956.

E. T. Hargreaves who served as Worthy Patron for some 10 years, was the first member to receive an Honorary Life Membership in the Order. Ten others were recipients of this honour later.

Although few in number the "Stars" worked hard and willingly together, giving generously to various charities, and donating their share financially and otherwise towards the building of the new lodge hall. As Lodge work is an important part of community life it is to be hoped that this group of fine people will again see fit to request the return of their charter.

The most recent Lodge to appear in Radville was the Radville Men's Club known also as the Radville Knights of Columbus. This Lodge was formed in 1945 at a meeting held August 12. It was composed of members of the Knights of Columbus of Radville and surrounding districts belonging to more distant councils, such as Regina and Willow Bunch. The purpose of the Club was to further the aims of the Knights of Columbus order, and to unite members who, because of the distance, were not in a position to attend subordinate council meetings and thereby take part in its activities.

#### DO YOU REMEMBER . . .

Herman Larsen's comments about the Rebekahs and their dish washing methods.

Originally, the Knights of Columbus was the idea of a 29 year old priest named Michael McGivney, of St. Mary's church, New Haven, Connecticut. In 1882 he presented his idea to a group of Catholic friends and they wrote the charter, listing insurance, fellowship, religion, charity, education and patriotism as the brotherhood's works. Father McGivney died only eight years later, but within twenty years the Knights of Columbus was established on a national basis.

To-day there are more than 4,800 councils spread throughout the U.S.A., Canada, Cuba, Mexico, Puerto Rico and the Philippines, with a total membership of over 1,115,400. Saskatchewan's membership has passed the eight thousand mark. On March 29 the order celebrated its 78th anniversary.

Grand Knights for Radville have been Maurice Craeyveldt, Eldon Kimball, Joseph Carles, Ken MacDonald, Genest Labelle, Stan Binns, Reginald Mansfield, Armand Bourassa, Raymond Dionne and Gilbert Martin.

Another historical event is the opening of the Radville Waterworks. This occurred on June 26, 1959, the ceremonies beginning at the Water Treatment Plant at 2:00 p.m. Short speeches were made by Mayor Smigarouski, Jack Vennard, (very short), Alvin Hurlburt on the general operation of the plant, H. P. Klassen of the engineering firm of Underwood, McLellan and Associates, Ltd., Bill Patrick, Manager of the Patrick Construction Co. Ltd., contractors. Premier T. C. Douglas made a fitting address and concluded his remarks with the cutting of the ribbon. This was followed by a short tour of the town and the lagoon, south of town, together with the P.F.R.A. dam north of town. A lunch in the Memorial Hall marked the end of the afternoon proceeding. However at 6:30 p.m., a banquet was served in the Auditorium of the Catholic Church. There was also an interesting demonstration of old and new fire-fighting apparatus.

The final event took place on February 4, 1960 at 1:00 p.m. which was the opening of the new Radville Co-op Store. A special program was held in the Memorial Hall in which Premier Douglas gave an interesting history of the founding and growth of co-operatives. The cutting of the ribbon which marked the official opening was done by one of Radville's pioneers, Jim McDermid. Thus was marked another milestone in the development and growth of our town.

It is likely that we have omitted many events which could have been included had they been presented to the committee. Sorry!

---

It happened during one of those very cold spells when coal was scarce. A traveller staying at a small hotel in town found his room very cold indeed. He placed his coat on the bed but still shivered all night. In the morning when he came down for breakfast the first man he met was Mr. Speigelman, a cattle buyer who had just come in from a drive and had icicles hanging from his moustache and chin. Our traveller turned to him and asked, "Which room did you have?"

# *Sports and Athletics*

---

## CHAPTER IX

The past fifty years are replete with dramatic accounts of the achievements of our many sports-loving residents, all of which serve to illustrate the type of pioneer courage and spirit that contributed to the founding and building of our district.

"Play ball." Every year in the month of May, millions of people all over the world thrill to these magic words that reverberate across the ball diamonds when the Men in Blue take their positions behind the catcher. This is particularly significant when we realize that the game of baseball has been with us in this district from the very first. By the turn of the century baseball had already achieved a major place in the sporting life of the American public and it was only natural that settlers from that country would bring this game with them. In 1906 the Buffalo Valley Team was organized in the Brooking district, and for a number of years played at all the picnics and sports days around the country. Early settlers may well remember the pitching feats of Julius Erickson at a picnic held on the Wallin farm in 1906.

When Radville began to take shape as a village, the people's desire for entertainment was soon fulfilled by the forming of a Radville Team. In 1911 the first Sports Day was attempted with such gratifying results that plans were laid for a new Sports Ground and a bigger and better day next year. The new railroad rose to the occasion by running three special trains to bring people to this mammoth affair. It is interesting to note that the village council took the wise precaution of appointing five special constables for the day. And so baseball gained in popularity. Possibly our greatest achievement in this direction was the occasion when our team played in the provincial finals against Moose Jaw, whose team had been augmented with expelled big league players from the States. We lost 3-0, in a thrilling display of excellent ball.

It is often claimed that "Necessity is the mother of invention" and no words can more aptly describe the advent of Softball. During the trying times of the dusty thirties it became too costly to equip and field a baseball team so many players turned to the less expensive game of Softball. This game became so popular that, by the early forties, it threatened to replace baseball, and while

---

### DO YOU REMEMBER . . .

When the hockey boys wore their sweaters to the funeral as a tribute to the late Chuck George, the uncle of the Reardon Brothers of hockey fame?

When the Radville National hockey team when travelling by snowmobile to play a game, was nearly hit by a C.N.R. freight train at a level crossing on the eastern outskirts of Weyburn?



Buffalo Valley Ball team organized in 1906. Standing, left to right: Tom McLean, Oscar Sunstrom, Julius Erickson, Arthur Wallin, Otto Sundstrom. Seated, left to right: Elem Wallin, Hjalmer Carlson, Frank Westling, Blair Kimball.

it never achieved this end, it has continued to enjoy a good deal of popularity throughout the district.

Climatic conditions in this country being what they are, it is small wonder that our national sport is one of a more frigid nature than baseball. As early as 1911 men of Radville were donning crude equipment (*Saturday Evening Post*) and chasing a puck over an outdoor rink adjacent to Railway Avenue. From this humble beginning hockey has continued to dominate the winter activities in our district for fifty years. In 1929 the present rink was built which accommodated the future aspirants to hockey fame as well as to provide an opportunity for the skating public to enjoy that wholesome recreation without having to brave the elements.

One of the things that make life so interesting is the uncertainty of what to-morrow will bring, so it must have been to the old time curlers, who up until a few short years ago, were obliged to play a rather minor role in winter sports activities. The first curling in Radville was in 1917, and was enjoyed by a relatively small

---

#### DO YOU REMEMBER . . .

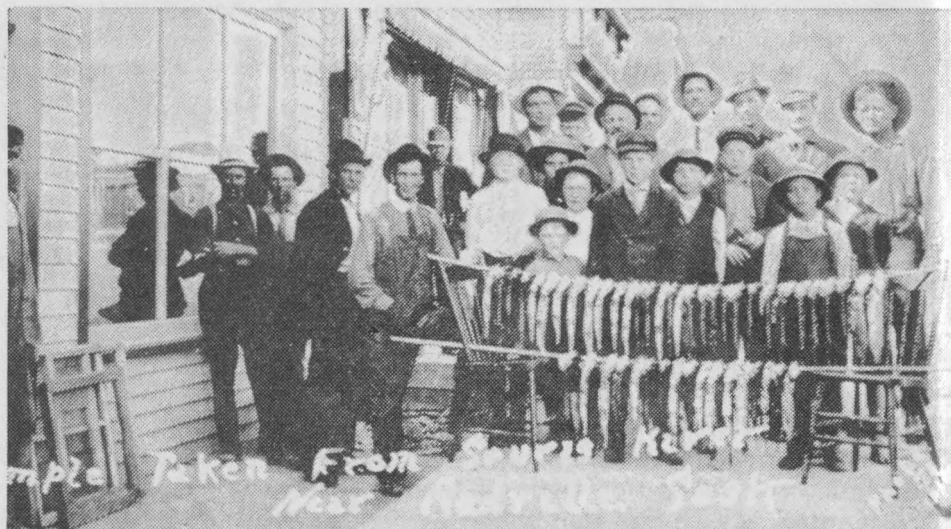
When Hussen Shibley promoted special trains from Radville to Weyburn for the hockey play-offs?

When Woo Sing would lament his missing a shot in curling with the observation, "Wide bloom, boy."

number in comparison with to-day's standards. However, what they lacked in numbers they made up for in enthusiasm. By the early forties, changes were taking place, and with the addition of the slide rule, the game soon attracted younger members to its ranks. In 1955 the new curling rink was erected at the corner of Main Street and Peterson Avenue, and although it is not yet completed, plans are in the making to install four sheets of artificial ice. "Soop her up" will then be heard for a longer season each year."

From the above, it must appear to the reader that the pioneers had only to initiate a sporting venture to find it automatically successful. Unfortunately this was not the case. In a number of instances various sports were tried and while they prospered for a time, they were unable to maintain sufficient popularity to survive. For example, during the late teens and early twenties it was not uncommon for the Radville sports fan to take in a football game between Radville and Ceylon. (Incidentally, Ceylon usually won.) This was not American Football (Rugby) but English Soccer which has almost completely disappeared from Western Canada.

Another instance of a similar nature is observed in the game of tennis. As late as 1949 it was possible to play this game in Radville on a balmy summer's evening on well-packed clay and sand courts. These courts dated back to 1913 when tennis was



This is no fish story. About 1913. Can you identify these gentlemen on the sidewalk? U. J. G. Schurman, Frank Bowler, H. R. Picketts, Eric Wallin. In front of Mr. Wallin you can see little Kelly Reetz and Alvin Reetz just behind him. Is that Theodore Labossiere near the window?

#### DO YOU REMEMBER . . .

When Murray Kimball's hat fell in front of Roy McIlrath's last rock in a close game for the Grand Aggregate at one of our local bonspiels?

When Bob Williams played the local dentist a game of pool, double or nothing, for a set of false teeth?

considered the mark of the gentleman and gentlelady. (The first courts were laid beside the railway just west of the station and were surfaced with locomotive cinders.) In 1959 when the R.C.M.P. barracks were built on the site of the old tennis courts, it closed another chapter in the sporting and athletic life of Radville.

One immensely popular sport has quite a different story to tell, and that is the game of golf. The first course was constructed in 1925 in the area between the C.N.R. station and the gravel pits north of town. The two most enthusiastic golfers were Bill Prowse and Neil Leabo and for a time the game enjoyed great popularity, but it eventually lost favor with its supporters and the course soon reverted to prairie. In the early fifties a new course site was located and the golfers were back in business. This time the game caught the fancy of the public largely through the dynamic organizational ability and enthusiasm of Bob Robertson and now golf has a following second to none in the adult group.

Who said, "To play billiards well is an accomplishment; to play billiards too well is a sign of a misspent youth."? In any event it has been possible to become "accomplished" along these lines in Radville since 1911 when Ed Dienst built his new Billiard Parlors and Bowling Alley. This building was destroyed by fire in 1925 and was replaced in the same year by the brick structure that houses the present cultural centre. Bowling facilities are now located in the basement of Holy Family Catholic Church.

All too infrequently boxing and wrestling cards have been held in Radville. The most notable wrestling match was promoted by Alf Johns about 1930 in the then new rink. It featured our own local wrestler, Elwood House, against the Dominion title holder, Jack Taylor, who was at least a head taller than Elwood. However, through the good sportsmanship of both a splendid match followed. Needless to say Taylor won. Putting his arm around House's shoulder Taylor said: "You have a very good man here but you have no business matching him against a giant like me."

The most promising boxer to emerge from the boxing school in Radville was Art Hoff. For a few years, about the mid-thirties, it was difficult to obtain a match for this little slugger. He was so good that he often fought in the upper weight classes. The last attempt to create an interest in boxing and wrestling was under the guidance of a Sports Director, Lyal Johns, with good results. While the Chamber of Commerce Sports Program proved too costly to operate, it is hoped that some future plan will provide these advantages to our youth on a more permanent basis.

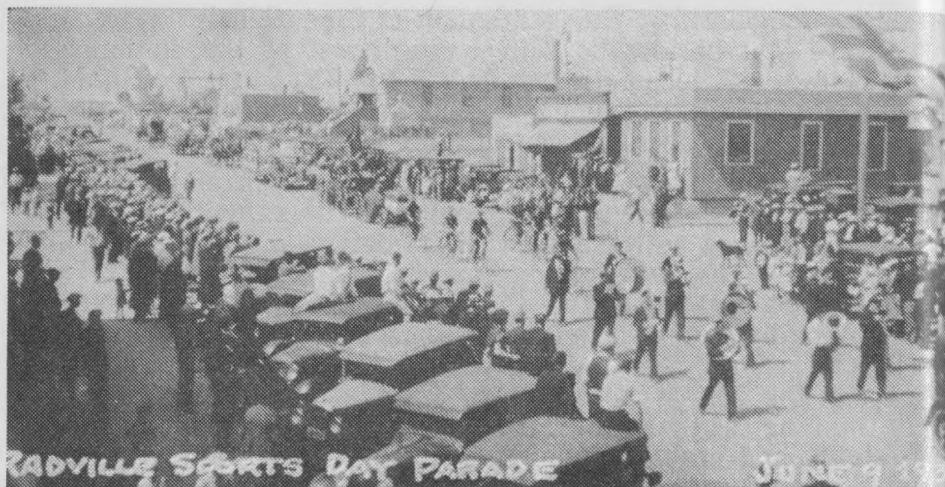
From the earliest days Radville and district has been a para-

---

#### DO YOU REMEMBER . . .

When Al Hurlburt pitched and won three ball games in one day at the Goodwater ball tournament?

When Jack Vennard and Gunner Fraser took the junior baseball team to Milestone and won the senior tournament?



Only 23 years ago. That's Mayor Thompson's car in the lead. Joe Bowler with the sousaphone, Ed Dienst with the bass drum, Harry Watson, the leader, to Ed's right. Who's the guy with the hat just ahead of Ed? Ben Austin ahead of Harry. Bobby Labossiere with the sax. Alf. Johns must be there. Note the old Watrous Fire Engine farther back. Those are Eric McKay's scouts.

dise for the hunting of ducks, geese and prairie chicken. In the late thirties, pheasants flocked in from North Dakota and added to the pleasure of the sportsman. With the increased interest in this sport over the past few years it has been necessary for the local Fish and Game League to restock the area several times. Fishing on the other hand is practically non-existent in this area. This was not always the case as the early settlers will readily vouch for the abundance of good fishing in Long Creek. The Fish and Game League is planning to stock the water held by the new dam north of Larsen's with fish and it is hoped that in a few years the angler will once again be able to tell about the big one that got away. Similarly with a new supply of water it is hoped that a new beach may be developed until such time as a proper pool can be constructed in town.

It would be pretentious on our part to suggest that we have covered all of the sporting affairs of our district for the past fifty years. Suffice it to say that we have endeavored to recall some of the highlights to your mind and if we have accomplished this, our effort has not been in vain.

#### DO YOU REMEMBER . . .

When Radville loaned the visiting team Jimmy Hinks to tend goal, and how, during the game, Wally Stewart was awarded a penalty shot? As he roared in on the net, Hinks scrambled to the corner to avoid annihilation. This unusual development so surprised Stewart that he fired the puck several feet over the net.

# *Social Life, Entertainment*

---

## CHAPTER X

"Those were the good old days." Everyone has heard this remark at some time or another. Indeed, they were just that, "good old days." At first, entertainment was limited to just plain visiting among the neighbours who were few and sometimes far between. When newcomers arrived and settled in the district there was much joy, especially for the women. Most of the early settlers were bachelors and the few women would often help them out with their breadmaking, and there was always room for a few more around the table at meal time.

As the communities became more settled, they took time out to have a few celebrations which always included horse racing. Paul Labossiere, an excellent judge of horseflesh, often won the final heat. There were competitions in various sports and dancing in the homes and granaries. Music for such an evening was supplied by a fiddle, an accordian or even a mouth organ. A caller for square dancing was an asset to any gathering and always in demand. Whenever a new barn was built it was naturally expected that a dance be held in it before filling it with hay or stock.

When the phonograph made its first appearance, the drug-store became the gathering point because it was almost unbelievable that a roll and needle could produce such pleasant effects and many were the enjoyable visits just to hear the music come through the big horn. Very few could afford such a luxury but the fortunate ones were always happy to share their enjoyment with their friends.

Soon schools were built throughout the country and these became community centres. Concerts and plays, box, pie and tie socials, masquerades, wedding and hard-time dances were held there, the school house ringing with laughter and music.

In the homes and in some business places the checker board was a common sight. Among the champions were Ed. Crone, Alf Johns, Murray Skelton, Stener Thompson and Harry Adams. We believe that Alf held the ribbon for chess for a long time. Cards also provided good entertainment for the homes.

---

In the September 1, 1916, issue of The Radville News was this item: It is little wonder the Ford is the popular family car. It has a muffler for Dad, a hood for Mother and a rattle for the baby.

Comment by a commercial traveller in those early days, "Radville must be a very prosperous town—a person can hardly walk along the streets for baby carriages."



First Band in Radville Can you identify the following: Clarence Koch, Bass Drum; Mike Mongeon, Herb Reetz, Bob Wheeler, Joe Bowler, Frank Bowler, Sven Ericson, Charlie Carlson.

After Radville became a town entertainment was much more varied and cultural. Many artists came from the cities (even as far east as Toronto), to give of their talents. Do you recall Uncle Tom's Cabin even with the ice and moving water effects, or the Swiss Bell Ringers with old Mr. Ekhardt playing the bass bell? The hypnotists Pull Bros. always played to a full house, and the violinists, pianists and singers, including the Hawaiians, were so well received. It was not only their musical abilities which were appreciated, but it also afforded the ladies in the audience an opportunity to note the latest styles in clothes and hair-dos.

Various church groups as well as lodges and other organizations often combined their talents and sponsored local talent plays, some in a serious tone and others in lighter vein. There were frequent masquerade dances and ice carnivals and great was the amusement in guessing who was who. Minstrel shows were always delightful. The "Old Barn Dance" with Jack Williamson as M.C. was without a doubt as good as the original in the WLS Chicago Radio Station.

An annual event looked forward to by young and old alike was the week-long Chautauqua with a different program every evening. (Do you remember the Chinese lecturer with the Scotch

An announcement for a hockey game said, "There will be a hockey game between the Never-Has Been's and the Never-Will-Be's. An ambulance will be there to take care of the casualties."

accent?) Card parties were always well attended, some of the favorite games being Auction Bridge, 500, and Whist. Mahjong was all the rage for a time.

The annual Trainmen's Ball and the I.O.D.E. Rose Ball were both very popular with the dancing set. The full-sized front of a locomotive, lights and all, formed the decoration on one end of the Hall; switch lanterns, warning signals, etc., decorated the side walls for the trainmen's dance. Mitchell's orchestra from Moose Jaw usually provided the music. In the corner was a huge block of ice with a large punch bowl lit with different colors in the middle. C.N.R. officials and their ladies came in evening dress and many of the local trainmen did the same. The Rose Ball was possibly the most beautiful sight to see in the year on a dance floor. Men and women lost the dust of everyday life and became ladies and gentlemen in evening dress dancing gracefully to the entralling strains of low and sentimental music. These were once a year events and preparations were made for a whole year for the next one.

Radville boasted a theatre from the very early days and the silent screen produced many a thriller and hair-raising adventure. Such stars as Mabel Normand, Tom Mix, William S. Hart, William



Radville's First Symphony Orchestra: Boys seated on the floor, left to right: Stan. Smith, Vic Watson. Players seated, left to right: Harry Watson, Edge Eby, Archie McGuigan, Happy Matheson, Bill Deek, Joe Bowler. Standing, left to right: Leader Gaudion, Ben Austin, Dr. Freddie Nelson, Herb Eby, Ed Laking, Cameron Stuart, George Herbert.

-----

"Amachoors is right." In a certain "mellerdrammer" Jack Vennard played the part of a rustic old man named Miner Smith. As curtain time neared, Jack thought a bottle of beer would bolster his courage and augment his ability. In due time the villain stabbed the old miner and stood over him, knife dripping in gore, waiting for Smith's last death gurgle. Smith came through in great style. He burped.



Junior Thespians. High School Play "Nuts and Bolts". Reading left to right, seated, Ronald Clark, Jack Ferguson, Dick Crane. Standing, middle row Cherry Mann, Donna Hamilton, Pearl Erickson, Jean Anderson, Beryl Skelton Shirley Stewart. Standing, back row, Bert Smith, Donald McKay, Euclide Bourassa, Bill Stitt.

Farnum, Theda Bara, Charlie Chaplin, Harold Lloyd and the Keystone Kops usually filled the theatre to the doors. Such serials as "Run Away June" and "The Diamond from the Sky" were real thrillers. With the advent of the "talkies" in the early thirties people could hardly believe it possible — there was such a vast difference.

This community has always had its share of musicians and

---

#### DO YOU REMEMBER . . .

The sweet little girl five years old who came into Radville on an evening train on January 29, 1915, from one of the children's homes in Regina to meet her foster parents here who had adopted her? The little one was alone with an express tag pinned to her coat.

The silent policeman that the town council had placed on the corner of the street between the two banks with the warning, "Keep to the right." The first two parties to violate the instructions were a J.P. and a policeman.

Lt. Groome who, when flying over Radville from Regina, dropped a few copies of the Morning Leader?

That George S. Thompson was the first one to use the long distance telephone when he called Regina in the interests of a client?

When Mrs. Elliott and Velma Cousins won the prize at an ice carnival for the costume of Barney Google's Sparkplug, and how the judges pinned the ribbon, not on the head but on the rear, Velma's location?

When admission to Alf Johns' Theatre for the kids was an old tire which Alf used to put into the pot-bellied stove to provide heat for the patrons?

from time to time produced some very fine orchestras, bands, and at one time even a symphony orchestra under Mr. Gaudion's leadership. When any of the boys returned home from war overseas a special entertainment was provided for them, and much local talent blossomed forth. Some musicians with degrees were Miss Copeland, Mrs. Prouse, Helen Underbakke and Erma Cousins.

The people of Radville and district have indeed been fortunate as there have always been capable leaders and qualified teachers in the field of drama and music, thus enabling everyone, especially the younger generation, to learn, enjoy and appreciate some cf the finer things of life.

---

#### DO YOU REMEMBER . . .

When the girls used to play ball on a diamond just west of the Anglican Church, and how Georgina Breeze (Probe) used to pitch and Florence Johns catch. She had to leave infant Bruce in the carriage to go and play the game.

What a good ball player Iva Lucas was and the arguments we always had with the Ceylon Team?

The debate between Rev. D. P. Morris and Bill Oliver on the topic of evolution. (Those who believe that man sprang from monkey didn't spring very far.)?

The black face minstrel shows, Doc Bertrand's tenor voice, Charlie Mair's piano syncopation, Dave Erickson, the only Swedish colored boy, who could play a mandolin like nobody's business, end man Bear Cassidy who, without half trying, could make a sphinx laugh?

The song we used to sing to Jake Wong for the wonderful dinners he served "There are pies that make us happy, etc."?

# *Citizens' Honour Roll*

This Roll we Dedicate  
To the Men and Women,  
Pioneers and Old-Timers  
of our community  
Who, because of death  
are unable to  
celebrate with us  
the occasion of our

## **50th ANNIVERSARY**

(PLEASE WRITE IN  
THE NAMES OF YOUR LOVED ONES)

---

---

---

---

---

MAY WE OBSERVE A MOMENT'S SILENCE TO COMMEMORATE  
THE CONTRIBUTION THEY HAVE MADE TO OUR LIVES!

**"Their Memory is Sweet to Us"**

# *Radville Fire Department*

---

## CHAPTER XII

"Fire! Fire!"

This cry and the eerie peals of a fast-sounding fire bell used to strike terror in the hearts of every early citizen of our fast-growing town. In those days every one went to the fire. Men dropped whatever they had in hand and, with their women running a close second, and kids and dogs bringing up the rear, ran like mad to where the smoke was bellowing forth from a fire already in the advanced stages.

Like the excited knight of yore who jumped on his horse and galloped off in all directions, so was a fire the meeting place of every one in town. When the blaze occurred in the early morning, everybody learned what kind of night attire the others wore; even the old night gown would blossom forth in stylish array, and how different Mrs. So-and-So looked without her foundation garment, combed coiffure and made-up face. The men were not a whit better with no time to shave or comb their hair. One thing the men had that the women didn't possess, was a thorough knowledge of how fires should be handled. Every man would very willingly volunteer his advice to the fire brigade freely, explaining to them the mistakes they were making; so helpful at a time like this. Half the volunteer brigade was used to keep the would-be fire fighters back from danger. Such were the experiences of the early days. But how did it all begin and how far have we come?

It all began in the time of our first overseer, Charlie Hill, who with his council became fire conscious and erected a bell tower in the corner directly opposite the lot soon to be occupied by the Weyburn Security Bank, and now occupied by the Town Office. This tower was about fourteen feet high, with the bell hung from a cross-bar. To sound an alarm, a rope had to be pulled down rapidly in short strokes so that a ding, ding, ding in rapid succession informed the startled people that something was ablaze. There were no false alarms in those days, and the bell was not sounded for just an ordinary chimney fire. If the bell was rung, the fire was worth the getting up and going to.

---

Here's a problem for you. In how much of a hurry can you get and still maintain your dignity and a sense of propriety? On one occasion Fire Chief McNaught was summoned in the night to a fire. He had started out the door of his home when his wife exclaimed, "Harold, you come right back here and put on your pants."



Three members of the Fire Department with the Crash Tender. From left to right: Chief McNaught, Captain Louis Cruesot, Walter Nyhus, chief engineer.

In April, 1911, when Joe Ayotte was our overseer, the council passed a bylaw to have doors of public buildings open outward, "and shall be sufficient in number and so located as to reasonably permit the rapid and unobstructed egress from the building of the largest audience." This same by-law regulated the size of stairways and a number of other fire hazards. Thus the populace became aware of a central control and the need for fire prevention awareness.

Again on September 28, 1911, permission was granted the village officials to borrow \$2500 to be expended on the purchase of a lot for municipal purposes and for the sinking of a well for fire protection. Incidentally the same By-law number 28 provided for the purchase of 2 acres for a nuisance ground. So you see the village was growing up.

In May, 1912, it became unlawful to use metal chimneys in the village in blocks numbered 1 to 7, the lower main street blocks. About this time or perhaps earlier a chemical fire engine was purchased. This contraption had to be pulled along by man-power and did not prove to be very successful after it reached a fire. It could take care of small blazes but most fires were conflagrations as far as this machine was concerned.

Then the big event occurred; Radville became a town in 1914. Pete Stuart (do you remember this stately gentleman with the one arm?) became the first mayor, and Joe Saindon the first secretary-treasurer. In the fall of 1914, November, a two storey implement shed and house, near the tracks below the present site of the rink, caught fire. The fire bell rang, the Roundhouse whistle sounded, and everyone rushed down to see the excitement. Radville's fire department was there with that little chemical engine, which in no time proved useless. In the meantime a locomotive

was driven up opposite the burning house and the CNR fire department took over. It poured water onto the top of the building which was caught by our bucket brigade on the other side and thrown back onto the fire. But the effort proved to be too late and "she burned to the ground." This pointed out, most conclusively, the crying need for adequate fire protection in the way of fire fighting apparatus.

In 1916, when John Eby was our mayor, a by-law was passed on June 27, to borrow \$6500 at 7 percent to be expended for the construction of two cement reservoirs, 1500 feet of hose, one fire engine using water, a hose drying tower and two hose carts. We do not know how the council of that time ever managed to secure so much for so little money but apparently it did and the people were very proud of the machine. It was entered in the parade of all town celebrations. The hose matched that of the CNR so that each fire brigade could be mutually helpful to the other. The pressure in the hose was provided by a strong gas engine and the only catch became the pulling of this hard rubber-tired machine to the reservoir closest to the fire. But for a number of years no fires of a serious nature occurred.

Then in 1921, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Cassidy lost their home in the early morning hours of a cold night. The alarm was sounded and the usual activity took place, but the water did not come through the hose and we stood and watched it burn without saving anything. Following this event, fire practices began to be held with greater regularity. On October 12, 1922, when H. R. Picketts was mayor the authority of the fire chief was greatly increased. He could order buildings removed if the owners did not comply with the fire regulations and many owners were forced to make their premises fireproof.

Then on May 24, 1925, Radville's worst fire claimed the restaurant owned by Jake Wong and the adjoining poolroom owned by Sam Shibley. The fire began in the early morning hours in the poolroom and had a good start before it was observed. The town brigade with Joe Bowler, fire chief, soon found that its equipment was inadequate and summoned the CNR fire brigade. This latter group under Andy Lovatt was assigned the duty of saving the Security Lumber Yard which adjoined the Restaurant at the rear while the town machine was used to save Koch's drugstore next to the restaurant. In this way the fire was confined to the two buildings mentioned, which were totally destroyed. It was at this fire that our present chief, Harold McNaught, had his initiation in the business of fighting fires, and the chairman of the committee responsible for this book, in returning home from a dance in Gladmar, coming over the hill at the Farville School, thought the whole main street was on fire, so great was the blaze.

In 1928, By-law No. 87 was passed by the Town Council, headed by C. G. T. Reetz. This by-law proved to be the B.N.A. Act

of Radville's Fire Department. It provided law for the prevention and extinguishing of fires. It outlined the duties of fire inspector or fire chief. All premises were to be inspected four times a year if in the mercantile areas and twice a year in other sections of the town. It also outlined the required precautions against fire, protection of stoves, furnaces, etc., the storing of flammable liquids, dry cleaning, garages, storing of explosives, use of gasoline lamps, etc., etc. It also provided penalties for the infractions of the law. The first fire chief under this new set-up was none other than Joe Shibley, a public-spirited storekeeper, who worked his heart out for two years and was forced to resign on January 7, 1930, because of the apathetic attitude of so many people.

In June, 1929, a by-law set up fire districts in the town. First class zone included blocks 1, 2, 3 and 4, in which buildings hereafter constructed were to be of non-combustible materials. The second class included blocks 5 and 6, in which the foundations of buildings were to be of stone and cement and the exterior walls were to be of non-combustible constituents. All the remainder of the town was in the third class area where no building could be constructed without a stone foundation. Incidentally, this by-law was later amended in 1945 when O. D. Stitt was mayor which enlarged the second class zones. Following the resignation of Joe Shibley, the duties of fire chief were assumed by Bob Robertson who held the non-remunerative position for some five or six years. In council minutes of 1932 there is a notation of tribute paid to Bob by the councillors and ratepayers at the annual meeting for the good work he had performed.

When Mr. G. M. Cryderman, Mrs. Henry Clark's father, was mayor in 1933 a further by-law forced every hotel to provide fire escapes, signs leading to these escapes, and a rope for each room, fire extinguishers on each floor, etc. When George Thompson was



Demonstration of fire fighting apparatus to municipal authorities. Left to right: Adolphe Krausher, Albert Fradette, Reeve Wilfred Bouchard, Leon Bellavance, Chief McNaught and Councillor Gerard Bouchard.

mayor in 1935, the duties of the town constable were set forth to include the keeping of the fire engine and equipment clean and in good working order, to act as fire inspector, reporting to the fire chief of any fire hazards and to attend all fires so that order may be maintained.

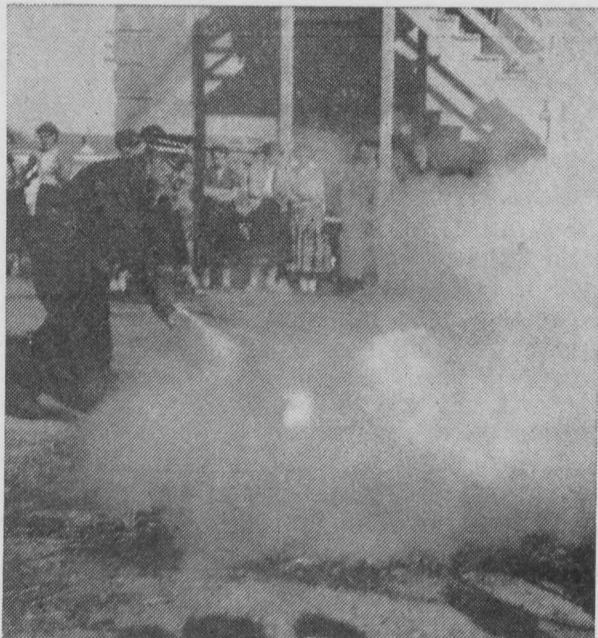
In 1936 the Midland Elevator caught fire at the top from an over-heated bearing during a grain cut-off. This event pointed out a further need in the fire department. The stream of water provided by the fire engine of some 150 gallons a minute was not under sufficient pressure to reach the top of the elevator, and the ladders were neither steady enough nor long enough to be of much value, consequently "she burned to the ground."

In 1937, Johnny Williamson's Livery and Feed barn also caught fire, and this threatened to take with it the hotel, restaurant and the stores along the north side of main street. It was the good work of both the CNR and Town fire departments that prevented disaster.

In 1942, Ham Ferris' Princess Theatre was the scene of a very serious fire. It began in the operating room of the two storey building, but the good work of the fire brigade with the old Watrous pumper saved the lower portion of the structure and prevented the spread of the fire to other adjacent buildings.

And so there have been many fires, some large, some small, and many occasions when the principal buildings of the town could have been destroyed had it not been for the good work of the brigade. To further assist in this work, the Town Council, O. D. Stitt mayor, in 1946 purchased a crash tender with a six-wheel drive that could carry 300 gallons of water and other equipment to a fire. This machine has paid for itself many times over largely because of its ability to reach a fire in a hurry with the necessary materials, even though it could throw but 90 gallons a minute.

Under Mayor Smigarouski, the town has made still further advancement in fire fighting and possibly the most outstanding achievement in this direction has been the installation of complete water and sewer system with hydrants strategically located at the corners of the blocks. We also have on loan from the department of Civil Defense, a 500 gallon a minute booster pump. Possibly our greatest asset lies in our Fire Chief, Harold McNaught, and a very active fire brigade. Mr. McNaught has seen fit to take numerous courses in fire prevention. He is a qualified instructor in Fire and Rescue work in connection with civil defense and presently (April, 1960), he is giving a course to fifteen potential fire fighters. He also possesses a St. John's Ambulance certificate. His most treasured possessions are Certificates of Merit from the National Fire Protection Association, second place in 1958 and first place in 1959 for towns of 2500 and under. The certificate for 1959 reads, "Radville, Saskatchewan, is hereby awarded First Place, Class F, Province



Chief McNaught demonstrates to school children the method of handling gas and oil fires.

of Saskatchewan, for outstanding activity in Fire Prevention." This is followed by the signature of the chairman and six judges. The Chief conducts periodic fire drills at the school and in general has succeeded in making the town populace fire conscious.

---

On one occasion a number of years ago one of the hose men slipped and for an instant the crowd watching the proceedings received a liberal dousing. One fellow was heard to remark, "The only thing they're putting out is my cigar."

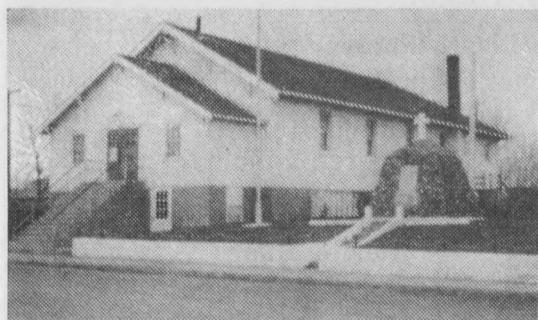
# The Canadian Legion

---

## CHAPTER XIII

The Radville Branch of the Canadian Legion, B.E.S.L., salutes the pioneers, the men and women of vision who have assisted in the development of this community and this Branch.

The Great War Veterans' Association was formed in 1919, shortly after the Armistice which concluded the Great War, and subsequent to the return of the boys to Canada. In a short time a Branch was formed in Radville which worked for the interest of the veterans until the formation of the Canadian Legion of the British Empire Service League. On June 19, 1928, a charter was



Memorial Hall and Cairn



Cdn. Legion Hall, Radville Branch.

issued to the Radville Branch with the following Charter Members inscribed:

Dr. O. H. Bertrand  
C. G. Boug  
Fred Breeze  
Walter Cassidy  
William J. Ferguson  
F. George Herbert  
Andrew Lovatt  
Charles Mavor

Wilfrid McNaught  
William J. Oliver  
Murray M. L. Skelton  
H. Sanders  
Cameron Stuart  
G. Taylor  
Thomas Topping

From this nucleus, our Branch and the Legion across the Dominion has experienced a steady growth so that it has become a bulwark of strength, encouragement and support to the service men and women, their families and dependents. The members of the Branch here built their own hall in 1928 and have made many improvements since that time.

One of the main interests of the Legion has been the Cenotaph with much credit going to the Branch for the excellent condi-

tion it is in today. The plaque bears the names of those who fell in two world wars, as follows:

### THE GLORIOUS DEAD

C. Ball	C. Erickson
F. Bert	A. Cravelle
S. E. Broman	R. L. Hart
G. Cassidy	J. Heglin
N. Dietrich	A. Martin
G. Drinkall	T. Rabbin
	W. Butterworth
	C. Caldwell
	W. S. Clapper
	A. C. Hunter
	R. Johnson
	H. A. J. Lackey

### "Their Name Liveth Forever"

### We Have Not Forgotten

Sid Anderson	Bruce Hunt
Leroy Beckwall	George Labbie
Gerald Bertrand	Leo Luten
Henry Carlson	Wallace Peterson
Jack Forsythe	Ronald Mann
Harold Floren	Sam Toronczuk
Raymond Geisen	Earle Warren
Kenneth Gawthrop	Roger Healy

The Legion today salutes the men and officers of the past who kept the Branch growing and now welcomes you back to Radville to renew old acquaintances on this fiftieth year of progress.

Since the second World War the past presidents who have guided the Branch are:

Wilfrid McNaught	Elton O. Alton
Elwood Vennard	Alvin A. Clarke
Gerald R. Evans	Mrs. E. Wyatt
Stanley E. Binns	Corporal A. E. McAuley, present president

"Full many a flag the breezes kiss,  
 Full many a flag the sun has known,  
 But none so bright and fair as this;  
 None quite so splendid as our own.  
 This tells the world that we are men  
 Who cling to manhood's ways and truth;  
 It is our soul's great voice and pen,  
 The strength of age, the guide of youth,  
 And it shall ever hold the sky  
 So long as we shall keep our trust;  
 But if our love of right shall die  
 Our Flag shall sink into the dust."

# *Sons of the Pioneers*

---

## CHAPTER XIV

In their footsteps sons will follow,  
Joy is theirs to view the past.  
Bow the head, a prayer to hallow  
All the shadows that they cast.

From the beginning of things man has ever been obliged to step down and provide room for his sons and daughters who follow. So it has been in our community. The pioneers who first turned the furrow, who began a small commercial project with a wooden counter, who performed every task by hand, who made their own clothes and bread and butter, who travelled weary miles behind a slow moving team, all have lived to witness such changes as, even in their secret hearts, they had never hoped to see when they first set foot in this region. With such noble foundations laid it must be a joy to their souls to see the capable manner in which the structure so well begun is being continued, ever testifying to their wisdom and industry.

In this chapter we do not intend to select or name individuals to support the above contention but rather to bring to your attention a few observations which, in your hurry in everyday affairs, you might have easily overlooked. We shall have certain sons or daughters in mind which we wish you to try to name for yourselves.

The loss of their dad necessitated his two fine sons to assume his position and carry on the work of farming. They with their mother have made a complete success of the operation and carried on in the proud tradition of their father.

A news item tells of the premature death of a father. The son continues on the farm but later sells and in order to bring the maximum of opportunity to his little family he takes up residence in a city assuming a position of considerable responsibility.

Two young men in the same family by their own initiative continued their education in the higher institutions of learning and graduated with degrees in engineering and medicine. Another young man who had a natural interest in agriculture continued at University to win a baccalaureate in that subject.

Can you name two young men who grew up on a farm but who began a new industry of their own which would help supply the need of numerous home builders? Can you name a sister and a sister-in-law of the above two who trained and became nurses?

Many are the sons and daughters who won distinction in the last war. Can you name a good looking chap who won distinction

by being mentioned in despatches and who was a member of the Canadian navy? What about the young fellow who used to box so well in the same navy? Then there was the wireless airgunner who now lies in an English grave and who won the Distinguished Flying Cross. Can you name the pretty young girl who joined the air force, met a young officer, married him, went to the Falls on a honeymoon and never did leave it. She has a sister who can dance the Hula and who likes Northern Lights. Can you name the young man who had earned a leave back to Canada but because he was needed began another flight and lost his life in the North Sea. So many, yes, so many cases could be mentioned of outstanding bravery and sacrifice by the sons and daughters of our pioneers in the last struggle.

Many are the fathers who, realizing the full capabilities of their sons, have turned a flourishing business or farm over to them, only to find that good systems must indeed give way to better and that modernity is the mark of progress.

In all there appear to be certain qualities or characteristics that appear in the sons and daughters of the pioneers of the prairies. The qualities of being able to meet adversity, of getting along with make-shift if necessary, of being satisfied with less than the best, seem to be inherent in the general make-up of our people. There appears to be a sense of humor not found in other regions of Canada which makes our sons and daughters interesting people. And among the men particularly, there is frontiersman spirit of a he-man nature, which informs you of exactly where you stand with them. They are ambitious and full of energy, playing the game hard and well, possessing ideals and aims and willing to work diligently to attain them. They have time to be serious and time to play, interested in the activity of their neighbours and ever willing to lend a hand when needed. They dislike pomposity and sham, and greet you with "Howdy" or "Comment ca va?" They are a heterogeneous lot who like to walk along together. Politics like religion is your own business with equal rights and privileges prevailing.

These sons and daughters have faced, as little tots with squinting eyes, the terrifying dust storm, have watched grasshoppers gorge themselves on stands of grain and have learned to smile in "hand-me-downs". Although economic conditions are much improved for them in these later years, there remains within their make-up, the same stirring qualities which would enable them to face similar adverse conditions if need be. Surely our pioneers in their later years have just reason to feel a sense of pride in their sons and daughters.

# *The Story of Our Villages and Hamlets*

---

## CHAPTER XV

### A. GLADMAR:

This village on the Estevan-Minton branch of the C.P.R. first appeared a few miles north of its present location. It was picturesquely nestled in the hills with their typical blue haze and dotted with their numerous little blue lakes. The first settlers arrived in 1909. Mr. J. E. Black from Elora, Ontario, gave the settlement its name Gladmar; "Glad" from his son Gladstone, and "Mar" from his daughter's name, Margaret. Also among the first settlers were W. J. Ehrhardt and Fred Ehrhardt from North Dakota, Zacharia Watland from Minnesota, Knute Leidahl and Lars Lunde. Many arrived from European countries, adding to the cosmopolitan nature of the population. Eidsness Brothers, who opened a coal mine, Elmer Slater, Thomas Warren, the Bells, the Fowlers, Duthies, George and John Fettes all arrived in 1910 and 1911, while Dave Fettes came out from Scotland in 1912. Others arriving about this time were Caspar Bendickson, the Coutleys, Labattes and Fladelands. All arrived in high spirits, seeking adventure, a home and fortune.

The village at this time was exclusively a coal mining town with no railroad. The Eidsness boys dug the coal and sold it for \$1.50 a ton to farmers near and far. The first mail was brought in on skis by Lars Lunde. The first regular mail carrier was Tom Warren and J. E. Black was the first postmaster.

School districts and the Rural Municipality of Surprise Valley were formed in 1912. Tom Warren was the first reeve, J. E. Black the first councillor, and Tom Black the first secretary. The Gladmar school trustees were J. E. Black, Z. A. Watland and Harry Bell. Violet Hammond was the first teacher at the same time that Mary Black taught at Oak Lake.

In 1912 church services were held on the farm of J. E. Black in a building now used as a Municipal Office at Minton. Mr. Hoffman conducted the first service and read the Bible reading. With no stove in the building, services were discontinued during the winter season. In 1913, the Gladmar School was built and church was held there after that time. Donald Murchison, a student minister arrived to conduct services.

All entertainment was provided locally. A literary society was organized with a membership of 45 and many were the forms of



**Eidsness Coal Mine and Gladmar buildings before the hamlet was moved south to the railroad. Note the hall facing south.**

entertainment provided. These enterprising citizens even staged plays, one being "Too Many Husbands," the proceeds of which were used to purchase an organ. Every one seemed to enjoy the singing and adding their item of entertainment to the program.

In 1922 the Gladmar Hall was built from the sale of shares and donations from interested parties. This hall was used for many purposes such as dances, church services, box socials and tonsil clinics conducted by Dr. McKay of Radville, Dr. MacDonald of Ceylon and Nurse Bell of Gladmar. On one occasion a dance was held at Pete Sybout's place. When lunch was served, everyone commented on the delicious sandwiches, not knowing until later that Pete's Percheron had broken its leg and—well why waste the meat?

Other sports enjoyed by young and old alike were skating, tobogganing, skiing and sing-songs.

The first store was built in the coulee by Eidsness Brothers in 1912, who freighted their groceries, drygoods, etc., by horses and wagon until they bought a truck in 1917.

In 1929 the railroad brought a great change to Gladmar because it necessitated the moving of the village south to re-locate on the railway line. The first car of wheat was loaded by Olaf Eidsness but in a short time the elevator companies appeared and erected these "watchmen of the plains" in all the villages along the line. Harold Torkelson was the first buyer for the Wheat Pool while Russell McGibbon was the buyer for Parish and Heimbecker.

An important industry of the district is the Sybout sodium sulphate mine, operated by a New York Company with G. Krantz as manager. This plant ships from 30 to 35 cars of sodium sulphate each month and employs about 45 men.

One of the first cars in the district was owned by Bill Ehrhardt. It had side curtains, hard tires, rubber bulb for a horn, and was a thing of beauty to behold.

Minnie Ehrhardt, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. Ehrhardt was the first baby born in the district with May Balgard a close second.

After the village was moved south, the hall was placed on its present site. The first store was opened by the Wedin Company with Elmer Rederberg as manager and Mabel Fettes as clerk.

Two world wars had their evil effect on the village and suitable services were held to mark the cessation of hostilities. However the village continued to thrive—new buildings were constructed—a small hospital added with a resident doctor, a new two-roomed school was erected in 1948, a new curling rink in 1953, Co-op Store, Co-op Oil and Gas, Security Lumber and Hardware stores, Imperial Oil Station, Cockshutt Implements, filling station etc. Such is a short story of Gladmar.

## B. BROOKING:

A community which saw its beginning at the same time as Radville but which now has almost lost its village is Brooking. We believe that the first settler in this district was A. A. Johnson who arrived in 1904. When the railroad came through in 1910 he sold part of his farm for the townsite of what was then called Stowes. This particular name was not satisfactory so several of the citizens got together to choose another. Among these people was one of our pioneers, Lawrence Haden who had originally come from Brookings, South Dakota. Lawrence suggested the name Brooking without the "s," partly because along the border of the tracks was a very picturesque little brook. (Incidentally, the very first bridge built in this province by the newly-formed Provincial Government of 1905 under Premier Scott was that "lovely little cement bridge over that same lovely little brook.") So that is how the village was named.

Businesses were quickly established. The first store was operated by Lewerton Brothers who supplied all the needs of the early settlers. A few years later Mr. Vernon, who was building a store in Radville, built another one here and he rented it to Tom Neily and Fred Miles. Brooking boasted of a very good carpenter Bob Keyes who constructed many of the Brooking buildings including a cafe for Fred Leif and one for the Siljenberg sisters.

---

Frank Oberkirsch recalls a blizzard which caught the Hoffman and Oberkirsch families out in the hills. Fourteen people found shelter in a 10x10 shack. A \$500. team of horses was squeezed in also. Morning came with the uncanny stillness which follows a blizzard and all emerged none the worse for bedding down with a valuable team of horses.



Eidsness Bros. Coal Mine, 1913. Many farmers came for miles in sledges for the coal \$1.50 a ton.

operated by Percy Armstrong, a blacksmith shop owned by Bill Leonard, Lindsay's flour and feed store and a three-storey hotel owned by Stevenson and McPherson. Roger's Lumber Co. established a yard and Ben Swanson built up a thriving implement business. Two elevators provided space for the marketing of grain.

The changes in store management are of interest since it led to the formation of the first Co-Op enterprise in the municipality. Tom Neily and Fred Mills bought out Lewerton's in 1915 and operated it until 1920, when it was sold to Freddie Nelson. Later Jack Mitchell took it over and he sold it to Everett Josephson in the early 20's, who then operated it until it became a Co-Op and managed by Don Webb. Good roads and larger towns in the neighbourhood resulted in the withdrawal of many buildings and businesses until now Brooking is a place of memories. One very important name in the history of this hamlet is Bert Henner, J.P. and town constable, who did his utmost to provide law and order in this frontier town. Other rich memories will continue to persist.

### C. WEBSTER AND NEPTUNE:

In 1911 a thriving little hamlet called Webster sprang into existence on land owned by Roman De Bruyne. Some of the early businesses were: George Bagsley's Flour and Feed, Ed. Pettes, Blacksmith, Bill Duigan's Livery Stable, Dan O'Connor's Massey Harris Implement Sheds and Mrs. William O'Connor's Boarding House. This little hamlet first appeared at the north-west end of Goose Lake, which made it a longer trip for the settlers in the south. The need for a town then seemed to be farther west and so the buildings were all moved in 1913 to what is now known as Neptune.

In its new location the town seemed to thrive. Some of its pioneers were Stovin's general store, A. T. Smith's garage, George Howell's Livery, Ed Pittes' blacksmith and Bailey's feed store and poolroom. There were many other business places, a post office, two elevators (This town was on the C.P.R.) McIlrath Lumber Co. and an Anglican Church. An early landmark that is still standing is the Lutheran Church on Mr. Torgunrud's land with Reverend Fahlkirck minister.

In later years the general store and Post Office were owned by Mr. Malcolm, who in 1935 sold out to Mr. A. King who operated the business until 1958. Though not considered as a pioneer Mr. King proved to be a good citizen and represented division one on the municipal council for some ten years.

Better roads and faster means of travel have lessened the need for many villages and hamlets. Nearly all grain is sold and buying of needed supplies is done in the larger centres now.

Other villages in our vicinity whose stories are not in hand include Ceylon, 14 miles west of Radville, Hardy, 20 miles west, Khe-dive, Trossachs and others. An interesting story is to be found in a former village called Forward which was located on the C.P.R. but later moved to the junction of the C.P.R. and C.N.R. only to find that the C.P.R. refused to stop its trains at that point and the town gradually died out so that now there is nothing of the former business left. Two names stand out in this area, those of Frank Axford and Harris the store-keeper, who was the last to leave.

It would appear that Progress is a hard unrelenting force in a new country and many are the businesses which have succumbed to its pressures.

---

The west is BIG and big-hearted too. A young student minister one afternoon called at the Black home near Gladmar wanting dinner. Mrs. Black explained that dinner was over and the dishes put away and she asked the young man what he would like. He replied, "Oh just anything; don't go to any trouble, just some potatoes and meat, bread, butter and fruit and a piece of pie." And believe it or not that is just what he received.

## A FINAL WORD

We the members of the Book Committee feel that there are many pioneers living whose names do not appear herein and to these we extend our apologies, as it was our purpose to include as many as possible who in some way or another have contributed to the history of our community.

Of our own community we have a sense of pride, and although there are many differences in social interests, yet we all realize the great necessity of travelling together, foot to foot, in the full spirit of co-operation, joined in the common purpose of making our town and district a mighty fine place in which to live. To our pioneers we express our sincere thanks for the firm foundations laid down, for the heterogeneous nature of our population, which in the long run forms the very basis for the exercise of the democratic principle, and for the hope that we may face adversity with the same fortitude and vision that characterized our old timers.

During prohibition, a commercial traveller asked Doc McKay where he could get a drink. Doc took the traveller to the corner of the Canadian Bank of Commerce and pointing out the home of the United Church minister (where Paul Labossiere now lives) he said, "That's the only place in town where you can't get it."

**DO YOU REMEMBER . . .**

Husky Marion Marsh's argument with Jack McConachie, the latter upholding his side of the argument with a pitchfork?

Dode Brooks as a delivery boy for Eby's Store driving a Model T with no foot-boards?

The duets of classical music played by two Associates of the Toronto Conservatory of Music, Helen Underbakke and Erma Cousins?

Alec Hendous' meticulously clean barber shop where many a checker battle was played? Call around and see Alec's fruit trees, growing in his memory.

Pres Barrett's "Clear the track when the horses are in motion" as he started the races at our fairs?

Bud Bergerson saying as score-keeper at a ball game: "Dienst to bat, Elim Wallin on deck and Julius Erickson in the hog train."?

The noble effort of Bernhardt Glassel in trying to save Elmer Marvin from drowning?

The charavaris — "shivarees" to us?

When R. J. Davidson, the present registrar of the Department of Education, taught school at Brooking?

---

**Dr. R. J. Sollars, Dr. I. S. Scott,**

**Mr. L. J. Leydon, Mr. C. Teal — Patrons**

---



**THE FIRST OIL BUSINESS IN TOWN**

**Extends**

**SINCERE CONGRATULATIONS**

**to**

**RADVILLE AND DISTRICT**

**on its 50th Anniversary**

**ARMAND J. VEROT, Mgr.**

Gasoline — Oils — Fuels — Printometer Delivery — Phone 137

# A Short History Of Ford Car Dealerships

---

Charlie Hill had the first agency for Fords in Radville in 1911. However in 1915 Picketts and Schurman obtained the contract and continued until September 1, 1924 when it was taken over by Ellis Brown and Lawrence Haden. They operated as Brown and Haden in the Chevrolet Garage owned by C. G. T. Reetz but under Albert Smith who was head mechanic. Brown and Haden then purchased the building which is now the old part of the present MacRobert Motors.

This partnership was dissolved on January 1, 1927 with Ellis Brown continuing in the business until 1930 when Bob Robertson and Don McQuirk took over and sold Fords and Ford products until some time in 1935 when they dropped the Ford contract in favor of the Chevrolet and General Motors products.

Owing to the hard times there was no Ford agency in Radville until 1941 when it was taken over by Lawrence Haden in the present location. Lawrence continued until 1951 when, because of a desire to retire, he sold the business to Wes Gullacher. In 1955 Wes turned the agency back to Lawrence Haden again who sold it, the building and stock to Armand Prost who is the present owner.

The biggest sales year was 1926 when Brown and Haden sold 106 new cars and trucks.

What a change has been wrought in the past fifty years. What will another fifty bring forth?

*Congratulations—Radville and District*

**Mon-Ford Motors**

ARMAND PROST—PROP.

# MacRobert Motors Ltd.

CHEVROLET

OLDSMOBILE

ENVOY

CHEVROLET TRUCKS



Our Building On Healy Avenue.

## TO OUR PIONEERS:

The MacRobert Motors Co. was founded in 1929 by A. R. Robertson and incorporated in 1946 under its present name. We have been Chevrolet dealers since 1932.

In 1949 we began a program of renovation and improvement which was completed in 1959.

Our showroom, parts area and office cover about 2400 square feet, while our service area is 5400 square feet.

In 1929 our staff numbered seven. It now stands at eleven. Our president is W. F. Robertson; our vice-president, R. H. Smith; our secretary-treasurer is E. C. Leflar.



### THE STAFF

L. to R.

W. F. Robertson

Gary Grosenick

Phil Stratulat

Eldon Leflar

Ronald Dionne

Don Church

Elwyn Haden

Reynold Smith



JOE SHIBLEY

The  
**Joseph Shibley  
Family**

takes pride in joining  
the citizens and pioneers  
of  
Radville and Community  
in  
celebrating

***50 years of Progress***

The late Jos Shibley homesteaded some eight miles south-west of Radville and in 1913 moved into town and started a business in the building next to the present Gospel Mission. In 1914 he purchased the Ayotte Bros. Store (presently owned by his son-in-law J. M. Seede) and continued in business until his demise in 1942.

Joe, as we knew him, was one of Radville's most beloved citizens. He served his community in many capacities: councillor, member of school board. A tireless worker in and member of the Board of Trade. A man of great integrity and sincerity, he never failed to assist any one who was in need—a true philanthropist. His early death was a great shock to all of us. We know how much he would have enjoyed our Fiftieth Anniversary. The proud Shibley name and tradition are being carried on by Mrs. Shibley, sons Robert, Joseph, Hussen, Buddy and daughter Rio.

—F.A.C.

# RADVILLE BAKERY

The Home Of

## "Golden Crust Bread"

BUNS - PASTRIES - ETC.

Extends

*Heartiest Congratulations*

To Our

PIONEERS and OLD-TIMERS

Phone 35 — J. L. Tetreault, Prop.

# CLARK BROS.

HARDWARE  
AND  
ELECTRIC

Extends sincere CONGRATULATIONS  
To all citizens with whom we join in  
Celebrating Radville's 50th Anniversary

Our business was first established in 1949 in the building owned by the Town and formerly occupied by the late Dr. Bertrand. In 1954 we moved to our present location in the former Watson Hardware building, which we have completely modernized. We now carry a full line of Hardware, major electrical appliances, radio, TV, etc. We are also fully licensed for all types of electrical work.

## RADVILLE RADIO AND ELECTRIC SUNSET HARDWARE

Phones 133, 160, 187

Clark Bros. Prop.

## Congratulations —

## Radville's 50th Anniversary

Most business enterprises have small beginnings and the Radville Community Savings and Credit Union, Ltd., is no exception. At the organization meeting held on April 16, 1943 the total assets were \$328.15. On March 31, 1960 the assets of the Radville Credit Union stood at \$844,676.73 and since its inception, it has loaned the fabulous sum of almost two and a half million dollars.

This amount has overwhelmingly surpassed the fondest expectations of the charter members of the local credit union.

Some of the founders and past officers are as follows. Rev. E. A. Yandeau, J. L. Tetreault, A. Barbarin, Jules Delanoy, A. Johnson, Albert Galarneau, Napoleon Fradette, Oscar DeRoose, Emile Bourassa, E. Hargreaves, Leon Carles Jr., W. Donnelly, George Delanoy, Neil Brodie, Maurice Craeyveldt, Donat Paulhus, R. A. Martin, Pat Evans, Sr., C. Craigen, A. B. Crone, Albert Fradette, W. J. Barrett.

To the pioneers and all those who contributed to the successful achievement of our organization we extend our sincere

## CONGRATULATIONS

**Save systematically—**

**By helping others—**

**You help Yourself.**

**Radville Credit Union Limited**

**Radville, Sask.**

## E. BOURASSA & SONS

JOHN DEERE MACHINERY—CHRYSLER - PLYMOUTH - FARGO

---

Mr. Emile Bourassa was born at St. Valentin, Quebec on November 30, 1884, came to Saskatchewan in 1910 and homesteaded in the St. Collette district.

In 1916 he married Lea Labbee who had come to this district in 1908 from St. Jean-Baptiste, Manitoba. Mrs. Bourassa recalls the first grocery store, the building of the C.N.R. bridge, the arrival of the first train, and other events.

Mr. Bourassa farmed for some fifteen years and then took over the flour and feed business operated by the late John Carlson. In 1927 he added the John Deere agency and later a car and truck agency.

In the mid-forties Mr. Bourassa formed a partnership with his two sons, Albert and Romeo. A new modern showroom was completed in 1953 and a quonset building was erected south of town and a new frame type building is presently nearing completion.

In 1950 Mr. Bourassa retired and he and Mrs. Bourassa moved to Phoenix, Arizona, where he died on April 27, 1953 following a third paralytic stroke. Following the death of her husband Mrs. Bourassa returned to Radville where she still resides.

Mr. Bourassa was always active in community affairs having served as councillor, reeve and chairman of St. Olivier School Board. He was a member of the first executive of the Radville Credit Union formed in 1943.

Mr. and Mrs. Bourassa raised a large family of eight boys and three girls, Eugene, Annette, Albert, Romeo, Marguerite, Euclide, Roland, Armand, Raymond, Lorette and Lionel.

The management and staff of E. Bourassa and Sons wish to join with the rest of the community in celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of Radville.

# CONGRATULATIONS

— TO —

RADVILLE and COMMUNITY

on its

FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY

— FROM YOUR —

**Friendly MACLEOD Dealer**

---

MacLeod's Brand Names

Are symbols of QUALITY and VALUE

---

**VARCON**

**ARCADIA**

**FARM CREST**

**HIAWATHA**

**ARTISON**

**MADE-RITE**

**SUPER QUALITY**

**CREST**

**CORONADO**

**HI-CAPACITY**

**HOME GUARD**

**POWER CREST**

**BIG FIT**

**LADY HELEN**

**McCRACKEN BROS. HARDWARE, LTD.**

Macleod's Authorized Dealer

Phone 141 Radville

*To Our Pioneers and Old-Timers*

# CONGRATULATIONS

on your

## GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY

# CARLES STORE LTD.

*Quality Service*

- GROCERIES      • MEATS
- PAINTS      • DRY GOODS

## The Red and White Store

This business began in 1944 with the purchase by Leon Carles Jr. from Raymond Evans, of a general store, located on the lot now occupied by the Marshall-Wells Store.

In 1946 Joe Carles bought the business and in 1953 moved it to its present location after buying out the Quality Hardware. The enterprise continued to prosper—a meat department was added, and in 1956 the store was incorporated as Carles' Store, Ltd. Further improvement and enlarging followed, until to-day it is one of the most popular places in town to shop.

The present staff includes Mrs. Jayne Field, Mr. Ken Brown, Mr. Lyle Daley, Mrs. Theresa Jalbert, Mrs. Jeanine Van de Sype, Miss Mary Van Alstine, Mr. Alex Bouchard, Mrs. Claudia Frodette and Mr. J. S. Carles, owner and manager.

PHONE 38

# CONGRATULATIONS - RADVILLE

— 1910 - 1960 —

*50 Years Of Progress*

FROM

## THE DESHORS

Mr. John Deshors (Deceased)	Mr. Joseph E. Deshors
Mrs. Madeleine Deshors	Mrs. Marguerite Deshors
Mrs. Eva Mazenc	Eugene Deshors
	Janet Deshors
	Rita Deshors
	Linda Deshors

## 50th Anniversary

# CONGRATULATIONS

To The

## TOWN OF RADVILLE AND DISTRICT

# M. S. FERRIS

General Store

Princess Theatre

# KNIGHTS of COLUMBUS

Monahan Council - 3161

## RADVILLE

Monahan Council No. 3161 was officially formed on July 4, 1948 with 57 Charter Members. The first officers were: Chaplain, Rev. E. A. Yandeau; Grand Knight, Maurice Craeyveldt; Deputy Grand Knight, Eldon Kimball; Recorder, Euclide Bourassa; Financial Secretary, Edgar Bouvier; Treasurer, Gordon Cairns; Advocate, Pat Evans Sr.; Warden, Joseph Deshors; Inside Guards, Ralph Bourassa and Pat Evans; Outside Guard, Jules Delanoy; Trustees, E. Reidy, Martin Thurmier and Leon Carles.

The first Committee Chairmen were: Catholic Activity, Louis Martin, Council Activity, Euclide Bourassa; Fraternal Activity, Martin Thurmier; Membership Activity, Henri J. Bourassa; Public Activity, Murray Kimball.

Monahan Council consists of 130 members and the present officers are: Chaplain, Rev. S. Ripplinger; Grand Knight, Vincent Kimball; Deputy Grand Knight, Armand Prost; Recorder, Gilbert Martin, Lecturer, Raymond Dionne; Treasurer, Leon Carles, Jr.; Financial Secretary, Armand Bourassa, Advocate, Leon Bellavance; Warden, Joe O'Hara; Chancellor, John Debruyne; Trustees, Peter Bourassa, Raymond Dionne and Raymond Fradette; Inside Guard, Gerald Chicoine; Outside Guard, Gerald Bouchard.

Past State Officers: State Chaplain, Rev. E. A. Yandeau; State Warden, Reginald Mansfield.

Eldon Kimball is the present District Deputy for District No. 5, and he also was the first delegate to a state convention.

**Sincere congratulations to our Old Timers.**

# KIMBALL'S DRUG STORE

RADVILLE, SASK.

**Prescription Specialists**

**Drug Sundries**

**Cosmetics**

**Veterinary Supplies**

This drug business was founded in 1911 by the late Harry E. Koch who at that time owned another drug store in Midale, Sask. The Radville store was first managed by Harry's brother, the late Clarence Koch. In 1923, Harry and Mrs. Koch moved from Midale to Radville when Clarence went to Harris, Sask., to operate his own drug store.

Harry was a graduate of an Ontario University and was an active member and official of the Canadian Pharmaceutical Association. Many are the young men who served their apprenticeship under Harry and who later graduated in Pharmacy. Among these are the late Hilliard Clemes, Jim Crawford, now of Regina, Tommy Clemes, now of Culbertson, Montana, Jim Lukes, now of Calgary, and Vince Kimball, present operator of Kimball's Drug Store.

In 1951 Harry Koch retired from the drug business and the store was taken over by Vince and Murray Kimball, sons of the pioneers, Blair and Mrs. Kimball.

Over the past few years the store has been completely modernized and continues to carry one of the most modern and complete stocks found in any drug store in Saskatchewan.

The staff of Kimball's Drug Store is proud of Radville's pioneers and heartily welcomes them back for the Celebration of the town's Golden Anniversary.

# KIMBALL'S DRUG STORE

**Vince Kimball — Phyllis Englestad — Murray Kimball**

**Phones 30 - 63 - 65 - 110**

The  
**RADVILLE EMPIRE HOTEL LTD.**  
 Extends  
**Congratulations and Best Wishes**  
 To Our  
**PIONEERS**

The Empire Hotel was built in 1910 by C. G. T. Reetz who operated it until 1930 at which time Jack Reddick became manager..

In 1932 Jack Vennard purchased the business, made many improvements and sold it in 1949 to Florence Ellison who in turn sold out to R. A. MacDonald in 1950. Ken MacDonald managed the hotel from 1950 to 1958. In 1954 the enterprise was incorporated under the name of Radville Empire Hotel Limited. For a short time Mrs. Helen Schmidt was manager.

In February, 1959, the present manager Yves LeGal took over. On December 3, 1959 the Beverage Room was added.

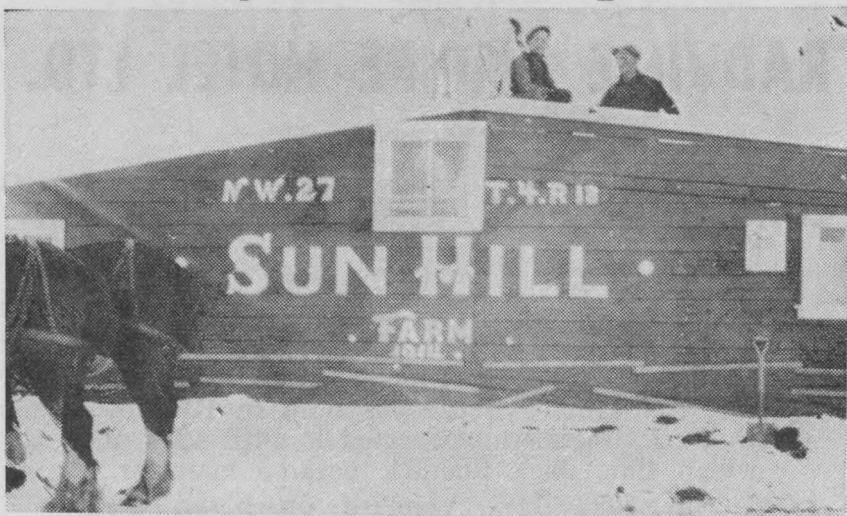


THE BEVERAGE ROOM, RADVILLE EMPIRE HOTEL  
 Facing Ladies' Room

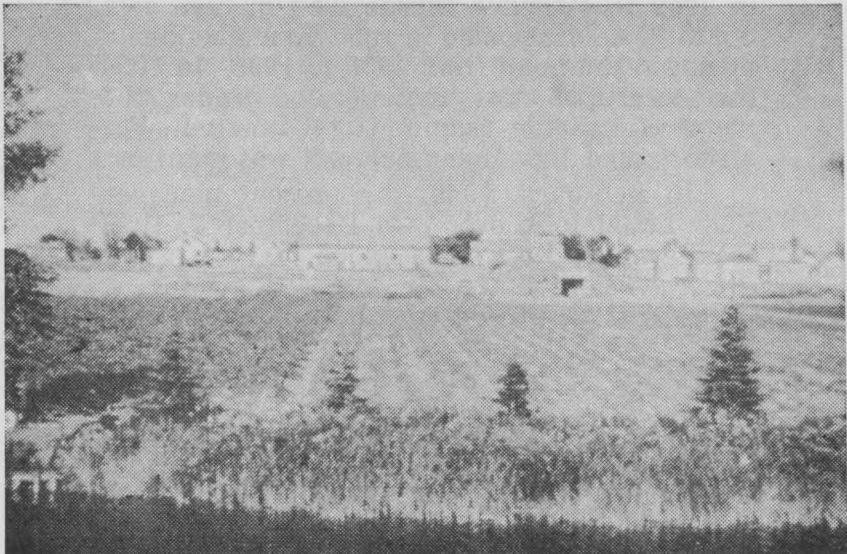
31 Fine Rooms, 3 with bath, 6 with hot and cold water.

YVES LeGAL, Manager

### *Forty-six Years of Progress*



SUN HILL FARM 1914 TO 1930



RIVERSIDE GARDENS 1930 TO 1960

We plant Window Boxes and Supply a variety of Bedding Plants  
Fresh green vegetables in spring—winter Storage Vegetables in the Fall.

## RIVERSIDE GARDENS

RADVILLE

VEGETABLES, GRAIN, STOCK AND POULTRY

Carl Larsen, Proprietor

Phone: Line 11 ring 12

*Congratulations To  
Radville and District on its  
50th ANNIVERSARY*

---

The McIlrath Lumber Co., Ltd. was founded by the late William A. McIlrath in 1912, the first yard being opened at Rouleau, then at Radville which, being a railway centre, was selected as the Head Office of the Company. When the depression came the company owned some thirty-five yards which was reduced to about twenty by 1944.

In 1944 the town and community was shocked to learn of the sudden death of Will as he was known to the pioneers of this district. He had served in many capacities, councillor, mayor, churchman, lodge member. He was among the first to see the need of a hospital in town and did much spade work in this direction. A bronze plaque in the Hospital commemorates his contribution to the betterment of mankind.

Following the death of the founder of the company, the presidency fell upon Roy McIlrath, a nephew of Will, who continued in the proud tradition of the business. Roy was a man of the highest principles, loved by all who knew him, took a prominent part in the activities of the community as well as his church. He was of an industrious nature and will long be remembered as a competitive and ardent curler. On an Easter Sunday in 1952, Roy very suddenly passed away leaving his wife Alta, his son Maurice and daughter Dorothy to mourn him.

Roy's son Maurice then assumed the responsibilities of manager of the company and he succeeded in rebuilding and remodeling several of the company yards. In 1958 the business was affiliated with the North American Lumber and Supply Co. of Winnipeg, but in 1959 the McIlrath Lumber Co. was sold outright to the Winnipeg Company. Radville lost another fine citizen when Maurice decided to take up residence in Regina, but the McIlrath memory will live on as long as Radville remains.

Respectfully submitted by Harold C. Hurlbert who cherishes his memories of The McIlraths.

# CONGRATULATIONS

To

**RADVILLE and DISTRICT**

on the celebration of

## "THE FIRST FIFTY"

The Harry Watson family came to Radville in May 1923 and started a hardware store which became a thriving business.

In later years the store was operated jointly when son Victor became a partner in the business. Upon the death of Harry, Victor continued as sole owner and manager.

In 1954 the Stouin Store building was purchased and after considerable remodelling it was converted into one of the finest **MARSHALL-WELLS STORES** in the province.

In December, Victor sold his store to Maurice McIlrath but continued as manager.

**Marshall-Wells Stores  
McIlrath Hardware Ltd.**

**Vic Watson, Mgr.**



THE NEW CO-OP. GROCERY STORE - OPENED FEB. 4, 1960

## **Radville Co-op. Association**

**1910—Jubilee—1960**

In 1959 the Board of Directors because of suggestions from Federated Co-Operatives made a canvass of the members and found them in favour of further expansion. Plans were then made for a New Co-op Grocery Store, and a contract of \$36,000 for the building and \$15,000 for the fixtures was signed.

On February 4, 1960 the new business was officially opened when Jim McDermid cut the ribbon. (This event is described elsewhere) This business is a great credit to our community.

Directors throughout the years were P. Barrett, P. C. Peterson, J. E. McDermid, H. E. Peterson, A. Barbarin, John Debruyne, A. Morissette, B. V. Josephson, E. Selme, A. Appelquist, Leo Dufresne, Ray Ban, John Tremblay and H. Verhelst.

### **THE RADVILLE CO-OP ASSOCIATION**

**Groceries, Hardware, Paints  
Feeds, Coal, Oils and Lumber**

**Phone 18 and 88**



THE RADVILLE LUMBER AND HARDWARE STORE BUILT IN 1955

## Radville Co-op. Association

1910—Jubilee—1960

The Radville Co-Op. Association began operations in 1929 with E. T. Hargreaves as manager and E. B. McKay as Secretary. With the coming of the 30's business almost came to a standstill although the association elected several different managers including George Clark, Loren Fox and Emery Swedburg. Then George Delanoy took over for three years and in 1945 was followed by Jules Delanoy and Maurice Craeyveldt.

The merchandise sold up to 1935 consisted principally of twine, coal and wood, but in that year petroleum products were added. About 1942 a hardware line was added to the business and in 1944 sales were over \$16,000 which rose to \$38,000 in 1947. In this year the building was moved to a new location. In 1952 a new delivery truck was purchased and storage tanks placed on the farms. This increased sales by \$15,000.

In 1955 the new building at the top of this page was built at the cost of \$14,000 and in 1957 the recorded sales amounted to \$190,000 and the Co-Op became a full-fledged lumber yard, hardware and feed store. The association through the years has saved the customers over \$150,000. Who says Co-operation does not pay?

## THE RADVILLE CO-OP ASSOCIATION

CONGRATULATIONS



RADVILLE  
on your  
**Golden  
Anniversary**

A. R. ROTH

YOUR  
LOCAL  
AGENT  
FOR



The

# RADVILLE Chamber of Commerce

Joins With All Citizens in

RADVILLE'S LARGEST CELEBRATION

## "50 Years of Progress"

The Chamber, representing our whole community, is always interested and active in affairs of Radville in particular and the district in general. It has always been mindful of the need for promotion and perseverance in a progressive community. Our members believe that their foresight and co-operation have done much to make our town the thriving community it is to-day.

Fine stores and a progressive people will continue to keep Radville the Shoppers' Town of Southern Saskatchewan.

H. SHIBLEY, Pres.

V. B. KIMBALL, Sec. Treas.



**J. M. Seede  
Clover Farm Store**  
are pleased to extend their  
**SINCERE CONGRATULATIONS**  
to our  
**PIONEERS**

**On the occasion of our Fiftieth Anniversary**

We have all grown up together—Our  
Hope is to continue to render service  
In this fine Community.



**Radville Lodge Hall**  
**Built in 1947 by Oddfellows and Masons.**



## **Radville Lodge No. 175 A.F. & A.M.**

**1923 - 1960**

### CHARTER MEMBERS

Herden R. Picketts  
Andrew T. Speedie  
Thomas E. Gamble  
A. A. K. Johns  
McGray Wilkinson  
Neil Leabo  
Ed. North  
David P. Morris  
Henry Anderson  
John McLaughlin  
Joseph Saunders  
E. B. Patterson  
A. T. Speedie  
Earnest Graham  
Harry N. Lukes  
William A. McIlrath  
W. A. Dalrymple  
Herbert Reetz  
William Purnell  
Murray M. L. Skelton  
Daniel A. McKay

### PRESENT OFFICERS

W.M.	Chester L. Teal	W.M.
S.W.	Earl Brown	I.P.M.
J.W.	A. L. Karras	S.W.
	Walter Rudyk	J.W.
	A. F. Hurlburt	Sec.- Treas.
	J. A. Howden	Tyler
	F. J. Ferguson	I.G.
	Tomi Chow	S.D.
	Lyle McHarg	J.D.
	A. R. Bennett	S.S.
	W. F. Robertson	J.S.
	Hussein Shibley	D. of C.
	O. D. Stitt	Chaplain
	F. A. Cousins	Organist

Meets second Thursday  
of every month.

# 50 YEARS OF PROGRESS

The Canadian Bank of Commerce is proud to join in observing the 50th Anniversary of Radville and surrounding district.

It was in June, 1911, that a Branch of the Canadian Bank of Commerce was opened in Radville. Since that time the branch has contributed to the growth and development of Radville in serving the personal and business needs of the people in this area.

The Canadian Bank of Commerce looks forward to increasing opportunities to participate in the future growth and prosperity of the community.

## The Canadian Bank of Commerce

Over 850 Branches in Canada

# THE BELGIAN CITIZENS

WISH TO JOIN IN THE CELEBRATION  
OF  
THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY

---



---

**The following are early settlers from Belgium:**

Vital Piero	1911	Deceased
Joe Wynant	1911	Deceased
Oscar Eckhout	1910	Deceased
Prosper De Bruyne	1910	Deceased, family remains
Rene Van de Vyver	1910	Deceased
Raymond Ban	1926	Still resident
Vic Van de Sype	1906	Deceased, family remains
Leon Van de Sype	1910	Still resident
Raymond Van de Sype	1906	Resides in Belgium
Oscar De Roose	1910	Still resident
Rene DeRoose	1920	Still resident
Prosper Nimegeers	1910	Deceased, family resident
Vic Daenckaert	1908	Deceased, family resident
Hector Delanoy	1910	Still resident
Gus Fossenier	1909	Deceased, family remains
Paul Fossenier	1919	Deceased, family remains
Louis Vink	1903	Deceased
Remie Vandenbossche	1906	Still resident
Hector Vandenbossche	1906	Still resident
Adolphe Vandenbossche	1910	Still resident
August Vandenbossche	1910	Still resident
Oscar Vandenbossche	1910	Still resident
Serafin Devos	1906	Deceased, family remains
Archie Verbeurgt	1909	Deceased, family remains
Jules Verhelst	1906	Still resident
Cyril Devreese	1909	Deceased, family resident
Leon Vermeulen	1910	Deceased, family resident
Sylvain Goessaert	1910	still resident
Leon Uytterhagen	1910	still resident
Rene Uytterhagen	1928	Deceased, family resident
Joe Uytterhagen	1929	Resident, Summerland, B.C.
Theodore Storey	1921	Resident
Maurice Craeyveldt	1912	Still resident

# STAN'S Sales and Service

MASSEY-FERGUSON LTD.  
DODGE AND DE SOTO CARS AND TRUCKS  
RADVILLE, SASK.

WE ARE HAPPY INDEED  
TO EXTEND

## Our Hearty Congratulations TO OUR

*Pioneers and Old-Timers*

ON  
**FIFTY YEARS OF PROGRESS**

---

We started business in Radville in 1956 when we obtained the Dodge De Soto franchise for this district. Our shop service has been under the capable management of James Dietrich.

In 1958 we added the Massey-Ferguson line of farm machinery.

We are presently serving our many customers and friends from the former Radville Farm Equipment building on main street.

Our staff today consists of: James Dietrich, Service Shop. Gordon Sharpen, Parts Dept.; Stan Stadnick, Sales and Supervision; Emery Charbonneau and Bob Axtens, Service Assistants. Phone 85 for Service.

# The Saskatchewan Power Corporation

takes pleasure in congratulating the  
Town of Radville and District on

**50** years of  
**Progress and Achievement**

It was only fifteen years ago that the former Saskatchewan Power Commission purchased the town diesel power plant and distribution system from the Dominion Electric Power Limited. The Commission operated the plant until 1947, when a transmission line was constructed from Weyburn to Radville. The old power plant was shut down and power was fed through from the plant at Estevan. The rural area was electrified by 1954.

In this relatively short period of association between the S.P.C. and the Town of Radville, much has been accomplished and through ready availability of electrical power, one may look to a new era of expansion in the years to come.

**Saskatchewan Power Corporation**



**GENERAL CONTRACTORS**

Road Building

Crushed Gravel

Dugouts

Crushed Rock

Dams

Screened Sand

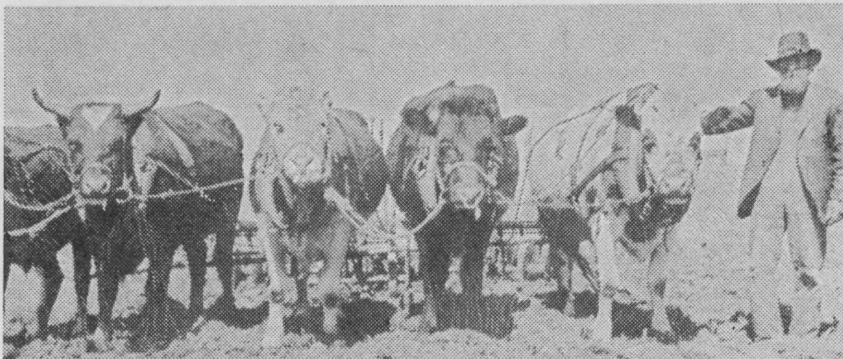
**Basement Excavating, Road Graveling**

**FREE ESTIMATES—PHONE 132**

— *Congratulations* —  
To Our

*Pioneers and Old Timers*

**ANOTHER PIONEER FAMILY**—Mr. and Mrs. Sanford Barrett with their family of six boys and one daughter (Granville, Theron, Prescott, Ephriam, William, Agnes, now Mrs. Elem Wallin and Almond) settled on S4-7-17 W2nd, 6 miles North-East of Radville on what was called the burnouts. They came with three horses and settler's effects.



In 1911 young Bill and his dad (in above picture) drove these five oxen from Radville to a homestead at Outlook, Montana. Bill returned to Saskatchewan in 1913 and still resides in Radville. Prescott has also remained at Radville.

## *Congratulations*

To The

PIONEERS AND OLD TIMERS OF

# RADVILLE and DISTRICT

ON THIS FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY

# MILTON HUNTER

B-A Oils — Gasoline — Fuels

METERED DELIVERY SERVICE

139 — PHONE — 287

# CONGRATULATIONS — PIONEERS



## KING'S CAFE AND HOTEL

The first business at this location was the Radville Boarding House owned by John Carlson who built it in 1911. In 1913 Sam and Joe Wong purchased the business but sold it to Jake Wong on May 15, 1915.

In the fire of 1925, the frame structure burned down but was immediately replaced by the present brick building.

In 1953 Tomi Chow took over and remodelled the interior to make the restaurant among the finest in Southern Saskatchewan. In 1958 Tomi changed the upper floor into modern apartments.

Our Chinese Citizens have made a great contribution to the growth and development of our town. Jake and his good wife, Sam MeeLowe, raised two daughters, Lillie, Tomi's wife and Jean, a registered nurse. Three boys also grew up in their home, Harry, now in Medicine Hat; Henry, deceased, and Peter, a graduate engineer. Tomi and Lillie have one son Dean.

Tomi Chow has always taken an active interest in Sports particularly hockey and golf. He is our local golf pro.

(F.A.C.)



*Regina's Newest  
Hotel*

Fully Fireproof

Showers—Baths

- BEAUTY SALON
- BARBER SHOP

85 Rooms

- T.V.
- COFFEE SHOP

George Kangles, his son Harry and August Deptuch need no introduction to Radville and district, George having been in the Hotel and Restaurant business since 1912 and Harry and August assisting to serve Radville visitors to Regina since 1936. It is always a happy occasion when Radvillites drop in to the Georgia Hotel and Cafe and it is our sincere wish that they continue to give us the pleasure of serving them.

We wish to extend our congratulations to Radville and District on the celebration of their Fiftieth Anniversary.

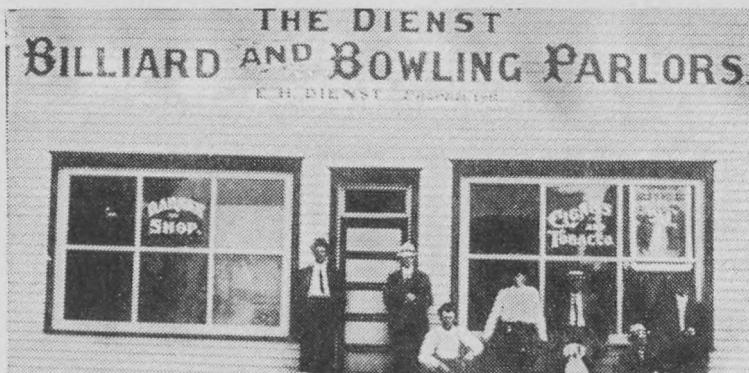


ED. DIENST—1960

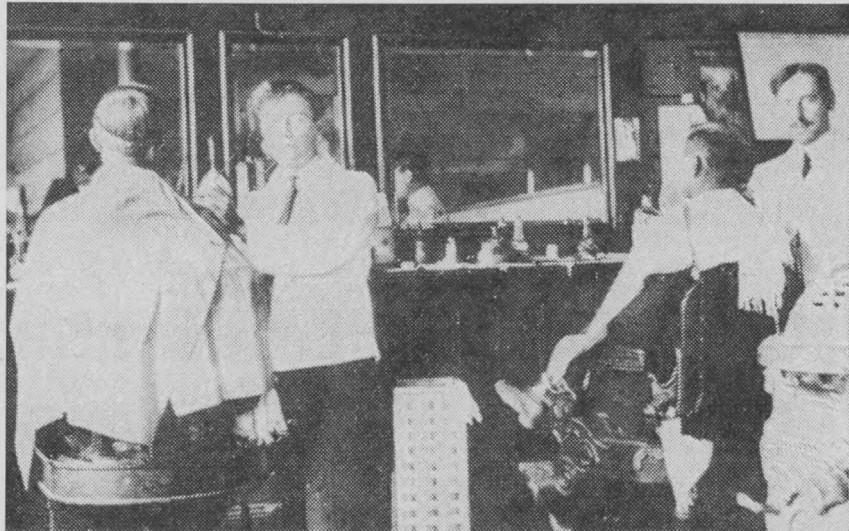
*Congratulations  
Radville*

1911 - 1960

Ed Dienst arrived in Radville in 1911. Became a Canadian citizen in 1912. Played third base on ball team. Hunter, fisherman, councillor, member of school board, churchman, lodgemian. Sold business, became a CNR conductor. Current interests — gardens, flowers, green lawns, trees, helping his neighbors and friends (F.A.C.)



BUILT IN 1912—5 TABLES—2 BOWLING ALLEYS



1912—BARBER SHOP IN THE "DIENST" BILLIARD AND BOWLING PARLORS—L. to. R. John Carlson, Ed. Bowes (Barber), Dan Dillon, Albert Halberg (Barber).

# **WELCOME HOME ALL FORMER RESIDENTS OF RADVILLE and DISTRICT**

We have had the pleasure of knowing many of you personally, and many others' names have been on our mailing list for years and years and are still there.

We take this opportunity to say a sincere "Thank You" for your interest through the years.

We trust that your visit "back home" will renew many old friendships and revive fond memories.

**THE  
SOUTH SASKATCHEWAN STAR**  
**The Home Paper for a Large District**  
**in**  
**Southern Saskatchewan**

---

---

**The Jubilee Committee cannot allow this book  
to go to press without commenting on the time  
and effort invested in it by Mr. Floyd Cousins.  
Its excellence is a tribute to the long hours, pa-  
tience, and good humour which went into its  
compilation and production.**

---

---

# *Our Jubilee Song*

TUNE—NOTRE DAME MARCH

Welcome to Radville, Our Jubilee,  
To one and all we sing merrily,  
Lift your voice and do your best,  
Hon'ring the pioneers of the west.  
They came to build and farm long ago,  
The railroad helped them, we know it's so.  
Now they come from where they roam  
So welcome to them back home.

—MRS. JEAN FENNELL